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Champion

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Flood chaos at roundabout

More views wanted on library closure proposals

The youngsters with the personal letter of thanks from Sir David

Receiving a personal 'thank-you' note from Sir David is a red letter day for nursery pupils

SIR David Attenborough has written back to the children at St James' Catholic Primary School's nursery in Skelmersdale to thank them for the birthday card they sent him for his 90th birthday.

Last month youngsters at the school had enjoyed a week of animal-themed lessons to mark the birthday of the famous naturalist.

Headteacher, Dave Iliff, said: "The nursery at St James' in Skelmersdale had a week to celebrate Sir David's 90th birthday by having lots of animals come into the setting so the children could study them close up.

"At the end of the week, the children made Sir David a very big birthday card and sent it off to him.

"We were delighted to receive in the post a lovely personal handwritten letter back from Sir David thanking the children and staff for his birthday card.

"I just thought it was very touching the fact that he took time out to write a reply himself.

"Often you get typed letters from celebrities and you're maybe lucky if that person signs the letter, but not with Sir David.

"We intend to frame the letter with some of the photos taken that week so we can display it in school for others to enjoy."

NEW CYCLE WAY SET FOR GREEN LIGHT

WEST Lancs Council officers are recommending that a proposed new cycle route, costing in the region of £500,000 and running through Skelmersdale's Tawd Valley, be approved when it comes before the borough planning committee on Tuesday, June 21.

Under the proposals the borough council would put up £200,000 of funding with Lancashire County Council contributing £270,000.

The cycle path would be named the Barry Nolan Way in memory of the late Councillor Barry Nolan who was a passionate supporter of the scheme.

It is proposed to upgrade and extend the existing footpath located within Tawd Valley Park to create a three-metre wide lit dual use foot/cycleway.

The county council has submitted the application and the existing footpath will be upgraded and extended within Tawd Valley Park.

The foot/cycleway will stretch from the north starting from the residential estate of Irwell and extend southwards for approximately 2km joining with Skelmersdale town centre south of the library.

There will also be a route off the footpath halfway to meet with Inglewhite and West Lancashire College.

The route will be lit by 30-metre spaced five-metre high LED lighting columns operated on a sensor trigger.

Report by **Henry James**

Commenting on the proposed layout and design, West Lancs Council's director of development and regeneration at the council, John Harrison, has written: "The path will be adequately lit with sensored lighting to create a safe and secure environment for users of this facility and to reduce opportunities for crime and anti-social behaviour.

"While the scheme will introduce a footpath/cycle track where at present the park is uninterrupted by formal paths, it will increase accessibility and will not have a significant detrimental impact on the appearance of the landscape."

There has been some concern the lighting scheme of the pathway would have on bats but Mr Harrison added: "The lights will be on sensors to avoid any unnecessary light pollution/spill. This chosen lighting scheme is a compromise in order to provide a safe, well-lit route for pedestrians and cyclists, whilst limiting the impact upon bats within the area. I am therefore satisfied that this is acceptable and the impact upon bats will be minimal."

The authority is also "satisfied that there will be no detrimental impact upon the trees."

Continued inside

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Suspended sentence for man who cut sister with knife

Report by **Lynda Roughley**

A MAN who cut his sister's arm with a knife during a row has narrowly avoided going to jail.

James Whitehead, who admitted recklessly injuring her, was given 10 months imprisonment suspended for two years and was ordered to attend 30 days rehabilitation activities.

Liverpool Crown Court heard that 25-year-old Whitehead had a row about their stepfather with his sister Jade on December 20 last year at their grandmother's home in Ormskirk.

She hit him with a dog's toy in the face and in return he slapped her to the back of the head and they both used foul language. He then left the room to calm down.

While outside he heard a conversation between Jade and their grandmother which led him to get the knife and enter the room waving it at her.

Sentencing him, Judge Norman Wright said that it was accepted that he had not threatened her and had not intended using the weapon. While recklessly waving it around it cut his sister's left forearm and thumb.

Whitehead, now of Avondale Road, Southport, who has previous convictions including assault, pleaded guilty to wounding.

Michael Davies, defending, said that Whitehead had taken the knife to scare her and had not intended to cause physical injury and she was injured when she lifted her arms.

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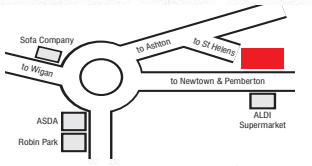

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Concourse owners granted leave to appeal High Court ruling on town centre development

Report by **Henry James**

THE Court of Appeal granted permission on June 10 for the Concourse Centre owners, Skelmersdale Limited Partnership (SLP), to appeal a High Court decision over the proposed new town centre scheme by West Lancashire Borough Council and St Mowden.

SLP, a joint venture between London & Cambridge Properties and Threadneedle Investments, previously applied to the High Court over concerns that a planning condition preventing existing retailers in the Concourse Centre from relocating into the new scheme unless they continued to operate in both centres "was unworkable, unlawful and unenforceable and as a result risks the future of the centre itself."

Jo Salmon, retail portfolio manager for SLP, said: "We welcome the Court of Appeal's decision for our appeal to be heard.

"We fully welcome and indeed want to play a role in bringing forward regeneration in Skelmersdale but the current plans approved by West Lancashire Borough Council for the town centre will put at risk hundreds of jobs at the Concourse Centre, as well as jeopardising the centre's future as a popular shopping destination.

Jo Salmon, retail portfolio manager for SLP

"We are keen to work with West Lancashire Borough Council and St Mowden, as well as other development partners, and urge them to come to the table to bring forward a masterplan for the entire Skelmersdale centre, which will benefit the whole community and safeguard the future of our tenants and their businesses.

"Collaborating with the council and other developers will also provide the opportunity to realise the broader vision for Skelmersdale and West Lancashire, creating a cohesive and integrated town centre offer."

More than 800 people are employed at the Concourse Centre which includes national retailers, independent shops and market traders.

SLP revealed its plans to revamp the centre last year, including new restaurants and a cinema.

A date for the appeal is set to be confirmed in due course.

New cycle way set to be given green light

Continued from Page 1

Drainage along the route will be mostly natural using cross falls and cambers to achieve the free flow of surface water.

Mr Harrison suggests that the route be passed and concludes: "The proposed development is acceptable in principle and will provide a much-needed dual-use route to Skelmersdale town centre from West Lancashire College and the surrounding residential areas.

"Subject to conditions satisfactory mitigation can be provided for any loss of biodiversity."

Youth leader's royal date

SKELMERSDALE Action For Youth leader Alan Lewis was invited to celebrate the Queen's 90th birthday at The Cathedral Church of St Mary the Virgin, Blackburn.

Alan and his guest, Margaret Nind of The Sun Shine Club, joined Lord-Lieutenant of Lancashire, Lord Shuttleworth at the event on Sunday, June 12.

Also present were civic dignitaries, local MPs, members of the emergency services and people who had been nominated for honours.

Officers with the quad bike they seized

Quad bike seized in nuisance crackdown

POLICE in Skelmersdale have been continuing their crackdown on motorcycle nuisance in the town.

They have seized bikes from the estates and they want to continue to work with residents to resolve the issue.

A spokesman for Skelmersdale Police said: "Your neighbourhood policing team have been reacting to your complaints regarding motorcycle nuisance within the town.

"We have seized an off road motorcycle, which was causing a significant amount of nuisance within the community. Also a quad bike was seized from Claybrow a short time later following many complaints from residents.

"We will continue to tackle this issue for you, but would ask for help in identifying the offenders and where the bikes are being kept.

"The neighbourhood team are very keen to work with residents in order to resolve this issue."

Flash floods bring chaos on roads

FLASH flooding on Saturday afternoon caused traffic chaos in Skelmersdale.

There were road closures in place after the deluge at around lunchtime and Skelmersdale Police placed a message on their Twitter page urging motorists to avoid Bone Island as there was severe flooding on the road.

A spokesman for Lancashire County Council, said: "In response to the forecasts for heavy showers, our highways engineers have been checking that vulnerable locations are clear of blockages and debris so that the drains can accommodate as much water as possible and reduce the risk of surface water flooding.

"Where flooding issues on the roads have been reported, we've been out checking that drains are running clear and, if necessary, clearing them. By its nature, heavy rain can't drain away immediately and may result in some difficult conditions, and we would ask drivers to take care if they're caught in a heavy storm."

Police assist traffic through roads under water near Skelmersdale's 'Bone Island' after Saturday's torrential downpour

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Gardeners aim to raise £1,500 for village hall with open day event

GREEN-fingered gardeners are aiming to raise more than £1,500 for their village hall by hosting the annual Holmeswood Open Gardens Day on Sunday, June 19.

The event will run from 10.30am to 5pm and visitors will be able to enjoy a free bus service provided by Holmeswood Coaches around all of the eight gardens featured in the open event.

Refreshments will be on sale, including lunches, tea and cakes, and there will also be plants for sale.

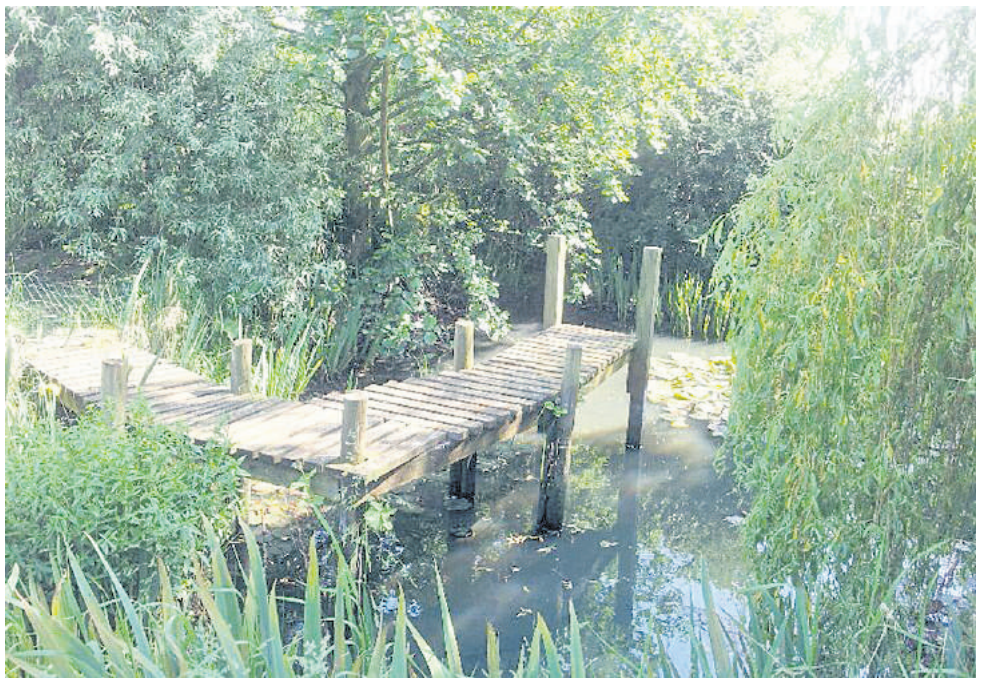
The gardens will offer a range of features including koi ponds, decking, a summer house, mosaic, woodland walk and a jetty.

The funds raised will go towards the ongoing maintenance of Holmeswood Village Hall.

One of the organisers, Alison Thompson, said: "We are raising money for the village hall and we have some lovely gardens to look at, lunches, teas and cake, a woodland sculpture walk, a complimentary bus service and more!

"The gardens featured are stunning. We usually raise £1,500, weather permitting. The bus service will start going around the village from 10.30am at Oak Villa on Holmeswood Road and the service continues for the rest of the day going from garden to garden."

For more information, contact event organiser Alison by emailing alison@thompsonstransport.co.uk.



One of the beautiful gardens which will be on display in the Holmeswood Open Gardens Day

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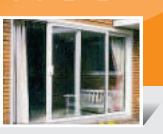

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Hospital investigation costs head towards £1m

Report by **Ollie Cowan**

THE suspension of four bosses at Southport and Ormskirk Hospital Trust is fast approaching the £1m mark as residents continue to count the cost of the lengthy investigation - now into its 11th month.

At least £800,000 will have been spent on paying both the wages of four suspended hospital bosses, including the trust's chief executive, and the costs for those brought in to hold the fort while an investigation continues.

That figure could rise to a million pounds if the investigation into the reasons behind the suspensions are not finalised in the coming weeks.

But still trust bosses, headed by chair Sue Musson, remain silent on the suspensions.

As the suspended bosses currently receive full pay, Southport and Ormskirk NHS Trust have now spent an extra £420,000 on funding replacement staff – but when the total figures are added together it emerges that the entire saga has cost the trust around £850,000.

And with no end date in sight for the investigation, any further time spent on exploring the reasons why bosses were suspended, will see that figure will continue to rise.

All figures have been collated from the Southport and Ormskirk NHS Trust annual report and accounts document which will soon be made public.

Although little is known about why the action was taken against the chief executive Jonathan Parry, chief operating officer Sheilah Finnegan, human resources director Sharon Partington and deputy director of performance Richard McCarthy, all were suspended last August following whistle-blowing allegations.

Benefits

They continue to be paid while the drawn-out investigation rolls on and on – with no timeframe for when the results are expected. Once the findings are passed to the trust, time will still be needed for bosses to act accordingly.

During this time it's estimated that, including pension benefits, chief executive Jonathan Parry will have 'earned' £170,000 including pension benefits, Sheila Finnegan will have been paid £100,000, Sharon Partington will have 'earned' £90,000 and Richard McCarthy will have been paid around £60,000.

The trust have also had to fund staff to take over the day-to-day running of the organisation - among them acting chief executive Ann Marr who was paid £75,000 prior to being replaced by new acting chief exec Kim Hodgson in May.

Louise Ludgrove, acting HR director is on a salary of £145,000 and chief operating officer stand-in Lisa Hunt is paid £145,000.

However the salary information for Louise Ludgrove and Lisa Hunt represents the costs to the trust and not their actual salary. The value is based on the agency invoices for the period and includes irrecoverable VAT.

It's not known how much the acting deputy director of performance earns, however the official NHS pay band for that position nationally begins at a level of £66,000.

Southport and Ormskirk NHS Trust had no further comment to make on the suspensions when approached by The Champion this week.

Trust chair Sue Musson was recently quoted as saying: "The exclusions followed an independent external investigation into three separate whistle-blowing complaints received by the trust.

"A second investigation was then commissioned under the trust's disciplinary policy. That investigation is being carried out by another external organisation. The investigation is progressing. Once completed, the trust will review the appropriate next steps."

Hotter recognised for international sales growth again

Report by **Henry James**

SKELMERSDALE-based Hotter Shoes have again made into onto the annual Sunday Times HSBC International Track 200 league table, which ranks Britain's mid-market private companies with the fastest-growing international sales.

The shoe manufacturer is among the 30 companies from the North West on the list, compared to 27 last year.

Hotter is ranked 137, compared to 60th the year before, with international sales of £9.545m in 2015. They employ 913 people and have annual international sales growth over two years of 26%. The company's main focus of international growth is in the United States.

Sara Prowse, chief executive of Hotter, said: "Hotter designs and manufactures footwear in the UK's largest shoe-making factory.

"We are passionate about designing comfortable footwear, that our customers will love. We want our customers to experience Hotter comfort not only in our products, but also in our personal approach to customer service.

Sara Prowse, CEO Hotter Shoes

"This resonates strongly with customers in the UK, but also with our international customers, and we are seeing strong growth particularly in the US market.

"Following a Queen's Award for Enterprise in 2015, I am delighted to learn that our team's work has been recognised by the Sunday HSBC International Track 200 for the second year."

Raymond's in the running for colourful character crown

A LOLLIPOP man from Ashurst has been shortlisted in a national search by McCarthy and Stone to find and reward the UK's most colourful characters over the age of 60.

Raymond Fry, 79, has seen off competition from across the North West to be named as a regional finalist along with two other over-60s from the area.

The competition has been set up by the retirement housebuilder to find and reward people who are young at heart, living life to the full and not letting their age be a barrier in any shape or form.

Raymond thinks his adventurous personality and active lifestyle in his 70s will help him to stand out from the crowd and impress the judges.

He goes to the gym every day and loves walking. Along with his wife, Patricia, he walked the Cleveland Way last summer and also climbed to the summit of the Ben Nevis range.

Last month he completed a daring zip wire over Snowdon - at more than 100 mph! - then walked up the mountain the following day.

All this despite having had both knees replaced in 2008 and 2009 respectively.

By day Raymond is a lollipop man for two local schools which he has done for seven years since he retired as a long distance lorry driver.

Raymond Fry

He said: "I love being a lollipop man, especially having fun with the kids – it helps keep me young."

The regional winner will be chosen by a panel of judges, including TV personality Arlene Phillips, and awarded a £100 experience voucher. They will then go forward to the national final where nine colourful characters will go head-to-head in a public vote on Facebook.

As well as the title of the Nation's Most Colourful Character 2016, the overall winner will win a trip of a lifetime courtesy of Saga Holidays.

The regional winner will be announced shortly with the national winner to be selected in August.

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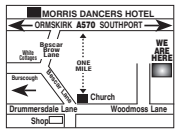

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Borough tribute to armed forces

WEST Lancashire will honour the service and sacrifices made by our armed forces at a special event on Monday, June 20 to commemorate Armed Forces Day.

The Ministry of Defence flag will be raised at the war memorial in Coronation Park, Ormskirk.

Service veterans wil be joined at the ceremony by dignitaries including Mrs Gail Stanley, deputy lieutenant of Lancashire; Mayor of West Lancs, Councillor Liz Savage and her consort, Councillor Noel Delaney; council leader, Councillor Ian Moran, chief executive, Kim Webber; and Councillor Terry Devine, the council's Armed Forces Champion.

Local uniformed groups will also be at the event and all those who live or work in the borough are welcome to go along and pay their respects.

Skelmersdale Prize Band will perform from 4.45pm before the ceremony officially starts at 5pm when Father Godric Timney, parish priest at St Anne's Roman Catholic Church, Ormskirk, will say a short prayer.

Mrs Stanley will formally present the flag to Councillor Savage, who will respond by saying: "We are honoured to receive this flag as a tribute to all our Armed Services, who have served in the past and are serving today.

Mayor of West Lancs, Councillor Liz Savage will receive the Ministry of Defence flag

"It is with pride that the Borough of West Lancashire shows its support by dedicating this moment to them.

"We trust that this ceremony will be remembered with warmth and affection by all men and women who are serving or have served the Colours."

Cllr. Savage will then hand the flag on to Cllr. Devine, and a veteran will give the following tribute: "Today, we have great pride in paying tribute to the men and women who defend Britain.

"Today we also remember the sacrifices made by the veterans of conflict.

"I hope that you will all join me today in paying homage to our armed forces past and present who serve our country each day with pride and dignity."

Cllr. Devine will then raise the flag with a cadet. Skelmersdale Prize Band will play music as the flag is raised. The ceremony is expected to be completed by 5.20pm.

Councillor Savage said: "I will be honoured take part of this special ceremony as we pay tribute to those who have served in our armed forces. I hope many people will join us on this momentous occasion."

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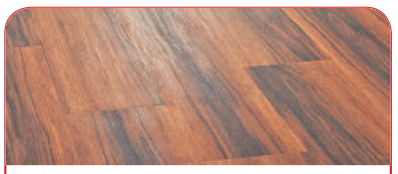

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More views sought on plans to close libraries and children's centres

Report by **Henry James**

LANCASHIRE County Council is encouraging more residents to have their say on its property review, which sees libraries in West Lancashire threatened with closure.

The authority has already received around 1,000 responses since the launch of a public consultation on May 18.

The consultation, running for 12-and-a-half weeks, seeks residents' views on plans to save millions of pounds by reducing the number of buildings the council owns and rents.

Under the proposals put out for public consultation by the authority Up Holland library at Hall Green, Burscough library in Mill Lane and Parbold library on The Common would be closed.

Also facing the axe are St John's Children's Centre in Skelmersdale, Hesketh with Becconsall Children's Centre and Moorgate Children's Centre, Ormskirk, along with the children's social care facility at Fairlie, Skelmersdale and Ormskirk's Derby Street day centre for older people.

County Councillor David Borrow, deputy leader of Lancashire County Council with responsibility for finance, said: "Through the property strategy we aim to ensure that we have the right buildings to provide good access to good services, with a significantly reduced budget.

"We've looked at a wide range of factors to try and make sure services are in the right place. We understand the strong attachment people have to local services and buildings and I'd encourage as many people as possible to respond to this consultation."

Most responses so far have been received via the county council website www.lancashire.gov.uk, which also features an interactive map highlighting the proposed changes.

Meanwhile anyone who has completed a response using the localised version is being invited to make any additional comments they may have after a production error was found in the original printed document.

County Councillor Borrow added: "The easiest way to take part is to use the website if you're able to. The interactive map is particularly helpful in understanding where services are provided now and where they're proposed to be in future.

Omitted

"We've made hard copies of the consultation document available as well and unfortunately one of the consultation questions was omitted in error from the localised versions.

"This has been quickly rectified so few people will have completed one of these, but we'd like everyone who has done so to be aware of it and to feel free to complete the extra question if they have anything else to add to the comments they've already made."

Members of the public, community groups and organisations are also being urged to come forward if they have an interest in taking on responsibility for buildings included in the proposals.

The county council needs to save £200m by 2020/21 as a result of ongoing government cuts to its budget and rising demand for services. The consultation is due to end on Sunday, August 14 and a final decision will be taken later in the year.

Up Holland library is one of the buildings threatened with closure

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Townsfolk urged to get checked out for signs of glaucoma

IN recognition of National Glaucoma Awareness Week, Specsavers in Skelmersdale is encouraging all locals who know of glaucoma in their family to book in for an eye examination at an opticians.

Optometrists can detect signs of glaucoma - one of the leading causes of preventable sight loss in the UK - by carrying out three simple tests. These are observing the main nerve in the eye, measuring the pressure in the eye (puff test) and checking peripheral vision.

Sully Patel, store director at Specsavers in Skelmersdale, said: "An estimated 600,000 people in the UK have glaucoma, but at least half haven't been diagnosed.

"Many are unaware that glaucoma can be hereditary and signs go unnoticed, especially in the early stages when there are often no symptoms.

"Early detection means the condition can be monitored and future damage to vision minimised, which is why we're asking everyone in Skelmersdale to make sure they have their eyes tested, especially if their siblings or parents have glaucoma."

National Glaucoma Week 2016 sees the International Glaucoma Association launch the Family Foresight campaign, supported by Specsavers, which aims to raise awareness of family history linked with glaucoma.

Russell Young, chief executive of the International Glaucoma Association, said: "We're pleased to be working with Specsavers to highlight the importance of regular eye health checks. Detection, diagnosis and treatment can help to save vision."

School holds French-themed day

STAFF and pupils at West Lancashire Community High School have held a French-themed day at the school.

They also invited pupils and staff from Brookfield Park Primary School and Kingsbury Special School in Skelmersdale to enjoy various activities including playing boules, visiting French-style cafés and markets and sampling traditional French food and drink.

Phil Dooley, one of the organisers, said: "We would like to thank Asda, Morrisons, Ormskirk, Tesco and Café Rouge for their generous donations. We would also like to thank the schools who joined us to celebrate French Day."

Linda Duffy from Asda who supplied various foods for the café with a staff member and pupil on French Day

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Legal eagles chip in with £8,700 donation for hospice funds

Report by **Henry James**

TALENTED golfers from Skelmersdale-based solicitors, Scott Rees & Co, helped to raise nearly £9,000 for a worthy cause by taking part in a charity tournament at Frodsham Golf Club.

The Gardiners Place personal injury specialists were represented on the day by a team of four, including senior partner, Daniel Rees and marketing partner, David Byrne as they teed off against representatives of businesses from around the region.

The day was a huge success with a total of £8,700 being raised for Willowbrook Hospice near Prescot which offers care and support for adults with life-limiting illness in the St Helens and Knowsley area.

Despite not winning overall, the Scott Rees & Co team finished with a respectable score of 65 points and Daniel Rees won an umbrella and matching set of golf balls for his effort in a nearest to the pin competition.

Scott Rees & Co are long-time supporters of Willowbrook Hospice which relies on donations, plus fundraising events such as the golf day, to perform their work.

The Scott Rees golf team who raised £8,700 for Willowbrook Hospice

The amount raised on the day will go a long way to ensuring that they can continue to provide palliative care for those who need it the most and their families.

The company's marketing partner, David Byrne, said: "The work carried out by the Willowbrook Hospice is so important to so many people and to be done by such a large network of mostly volunteers, shows the commitment they have when it comes to giving the very best possible palliative care for those in need.

"We always enjoy participating in events such as these that help local causes and we are incredibly happy to be a part of an incredible contribution towards the cause today."

Half-term trip to sunny Spain is a splash hit with Lathom pupils

The pupils from Lathom High take a break from their water sports activities during their half-term trip to Spain

YEAR 7 and 8 pupils at Lathom High School in Skelmersdale enjoyed a half-term visit to Plaja D'aro in Spain.

During their stay the party took part in a number of water sports activities including using catamarans and kayaks and trying their hands at paddle boarding and windsurfing.

The students threw themselves into every challenge and overcame initial nerves to complete all the activities.

Later in the trip they took part in a mock pedalo 'pirate battle' and also enjoyed an evening spent at the arcades on the trampolines and bumper cars, a highlight being Ben Jones'control of the rodeo bull machine like a true matador!

The sunshine break was rounded off with a visit to Water World in Lloret.

A spokeswoman for the school said: "The students were a credit to the school and displayed great courage and maturity when experiencing new activities."

Mr McPhail from Lathom High added: "They can all be very proud of their behaviour and how they represented the school throughout the trip."

Mayor to support four local causes

THE new Mayor of West Lancashire will support four local good causes during her year in office.

Councillor Liz Savage and her consort, Councillor Noel Delaney, will raise funds for the neo-natal unit at Ormskirk Hospital; the Artz Centre, Birch Green; The Civic in Ormskirk and the Birchwood Centre, Skelmersdale.

A programme of fundraising events will be planned over the next 12 months to raise funds for these worthy causes.

One of the first will be an Irish Night at The Civic on Friday, June 24 with Michael Coyne, starting at 7.30pm. Tickets, priced £10 including hot-pot, can be booked by ringing 01695 585033.

Cllr. Savage said: "Noel and I will be working with our charity committee to raise as much money as we can for our local worthy causes. We are very excited about the task of fundraising that lies ahead and we hope the people of West Lancashire will get behind us."

The neo natal unit at Ormskirk Hospital provides lifesaving care for babies born prematurely or who are sick after birth. Over the last 12 months the unit has helped 381 vulnerable newborns.

The Birchwood Centre provides a number of services for young people aged between 13 and 25 who are at risk of homelessness, ranging from temporary accommodation to helping young people keep their tenancies. Over the last three years the centre has supported about 600 young people.

The mayor and her consort with representatives of the Artz Centre, Ormskirk Hospital neo natal unit and The Civic.

Cllr. Savage added: "The neo natal unit helps families at one of their most worrying times and I really wanted to help the lifesaving work that they do.

"Helping the homeless has long been a passion of mine so when I heard about the great work of the Birchwood Centre I knew this was one of the charities I had to support."

The Civic is the new name for Ormskirk Civic Hall, which is now managed by Liz Wainwright and Gemma Briscoe, two members of local theatre group Ormskirk Pleasure Folk. They have set up Ormskirk Civic Hall CIC to take on management of the building to ensure it remains available for community use, as well as private functions.

The Artz Centre provides a wide range of classes and sessions to around 250 young people aged between two and 21, including drama, singing and dance. The centre is looking to expand its services to help even more young people.

Cllr Savage commented: "The Artz Centre does excellent work with young people and could do even more with extra equipment, so it seemed an ideal venture to support.

"The Civic Hall was an integral part of my childhood, having performed there and attended events.

"I feel it's important we do everything we can to keep this historic building in use."

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Champion LETTERS to the Editor

Clare House, 166 Lord Street, Southport PR9 0QA
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No sense of proportion when it comes to public expenditure

THANKS for printing the efforts of those concerned enough to write to you or work in other ways to save our library services.

Our 'would-be lords and masters in London' seem to have lost all sense of proportion when it comes to public expenditure.

All this fuss for Lancashire's people to save a measly £200 million!

That's not even the cost of two of those nippy fighter planes that we see overhead flown by Biggles types testing their tools, practising or learning to fly.

Blackpool got 18 brand-new single-deck, five-unit trams for less than the cost of one plane.

For any government to be so imperious with our taxes as this bunch, I am keen to learn just who we are supposed to be arming ourselves to fight next?

The Navy now want £6 billion to make good six new destroyers only now found unfit for operation in warmer waters.

Are they mad, or are we a thick-head mass more stupid than they believe us to be?

George Lambert, Mill Lane, Burscough

A disgrace... see John M Brown's letter, right.

Roundabouts in West Lancs are a disgrace

DOES anybody else agree that the condition of the grass verges and roundabouts in Aughton is a disgrace?

I recently returned from a holiday in Lanzarote and their roundabouts, made entirely from lava ash and chippings, are so well maintained it puts us to shame.

We pay through the nose for council tax here and I wonder just what this council is playing at - oh, sorry, they are of course short of money!

Come on West Lancs Council, pull your fingers out and stop creating a danger to motorists, cyclists, walkers and indeed anyone else who has the misfortune to live here with this mess.

John M. Brown,
Eskdale Avenue, Aughton

PICTURE of the week

A right royal party - revellers take a break from celebratory confections at Crosby Road street party - one of hundreds across the country held to mark HM Queen Elizabeth's 90th birthday. Picture by Martyn Snape.

... and just plain dangerous too!

Dangerous - that's this reader's description of the Turnpike Road junction

I HAVE taken a number of photographs showing the disgraceful lack of maintenance at the roundabout on the A59 at the junction with Winifreds Lane, Aughton.

What sort of message does this convey to visitors who are later welcomed to 'The Historic Market Town of Ormskirk' (presumably historic refers to the length of time since the grass was cut!).

The roundabout situation clearly displays a lack of civic pride, but about half-a-mile further on, at the A59 junction with Turnpike Road (pictured), the situation is just plain dangerous as drivers coming away from Ormskirk and turning right into Turnpike Road have no clear view of approaching traffic because of the untended undergrowth.

An accident waiting to happen?

Concerned of Aughton,
by e-mail

We want to hear your views...

IF you've got a view on a topic of local or national interest which you would like to share with the readers of the Champion, why not drop us a line?

Letters to the editor should be concise, preferably no more than 350 words, and should include the sender's name, address and contact details, although not necessarily for publication.

Correspondents preferring not to have their name and/or their address published may provide a suitable nom de plume.

Letters can be posted or emailed to the respective addresses listed at the top of this page.

Please note that the editor reserves the right to edit all items submitted for favour of publication.

Spare a thought for our furry friends in the warm weather

WITH the arrival of warmer weather, we should be reminded that animals can suffer and die.

Dogs die in hot cars (even if the sun is not shining) and should not be left in them even for short periods.

Other animals suffer, too.

Rabbits must not be left in the glaring sun or inside a sweltering garage or shed. They need a cool, shady place where air circulates and where they are able to move freely. A hot rabbit can be kept cool by applying cold water gently to his ears.

Smaller animals such as hamsters, rats and gerbils can be kept cool by opening windows and closing curtains, using a fan (but not directly at them), and by ensuring a good supply of fresh water.

Fiona Pereira, Campaign Manager, Animal Aid

Church should pay for upkeep of 'abbey' site

THE vandalism that has been happening at Lydiate 'abbey' is a disgrace.

The Catholic Church should be made to pay for the upkeep of the structure for health and safety reasons, or close the site down to the public before someone is hurt.

Also, over the past few years the site has become a magnet for 'ghost hunters' in the North West.

These tours attract people at all hours of the night, they leave behind drink cans and other litter and then residents are expected to clean it all up.

Arthur Hitchins, by email

These unkempt grass verges are bringing our nice area down

IT'S about time the grass verges in Aughton were attended to.

I don't know if anybody else has noticed the grass verges from Robbins Island through to Ormskirk, they are in a dreadful state.

We live in such a nice area but it is being brought down by these unkempt verges which are now almost three feet high.

Is anything being done to deal with this increasing problem.

An Aughton resident,
by email

Chance to have a say on community health services

Residents urged to visit informal events

Report by **Henry James**

Claire Heneghan, chief nurse of NHS West Lancashire CCG

RESIDENTS are being encouraged to have their say about community health services in West Lancashire at a number of informal events being staged in the borough.

The NHS West Lancashire Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) is in the process of re-tendering its local community health services contracts, along with its urgent care services such as GP out-of-hours, Acute Visiting Service and the walk-in centres in Skelmersdale and Ormskirk.

A number of events have been organised by the CCG where residents will have the opportunity to get an update on the development of the plans for this re-procurement, as well as have an opportunity for discussions directly with the CCG, where they will be able to share their thoughts.

These are open to any West Lancs resident with previous experience of using community health services, in particular those living with a long-term condition (such as diabetes and cancer), as well as anybody with an interest in learning more about these plans.

People can go along to any of the following pop-up stands at a time and location that suits them:

The events are as follows:

Thursday, June 16

Booths supermarket, Hesketh Bank 10.30 to 11.30am.

Tesco Supermarket, Burscough noon to 1pm.

Asda Superstore, Skelmersdale 2 to 3pm.

Friday, June 17

Tarleton Library, 10.30 to 11.30am.

Halsall Memorial Hall, 2 to 3pm.

Saturday, June 18

Ormskirk Library, 10 to 11.30am.

Monday, June 20

Skelmersdale Library, 5 to 6.30pm.

Thursday, June 23

Ormskirk Library, 5 to 6.30pm.

Friday, June 24

Parbold Library, 10 to 11 am.

Up Holland Library, 11.30am to 12.30pm.

Tuesday, June 28

Banks Community Centre, 10.30 to 11.30am.

Claire Heneghan, chief nurse and board member of NHS West Lancashire CCG, said: "It's vitally important during this period of planning the community health services in West Lancashire that we continue to listen to the views of those residents who use these services.

"This process is about creating effective and sustainable services for the future.

"We need to ensure our residents, especially those living with long-term conditions, have the right care wrapped around them and also the right knowledge to help them to self-manage their condition.

"Transforming our local community health services towards care truly joined up with GPs, social and voluntary sectors, along with hospital care, will allow so many local people to live healthier and happier lives and maintain their independence.

Recorded

"I would therefore urge all residents to join us at one of our events, have your say and listen to our plans for this development and together we can shape these services for the benefit of everyone in West Lancashire."

Following the events, themes and comments will be recorded and shared on the West Lancashire CCG website so that residents can see how they have been used.

The dedicated web page contains all information relating to the process including timescales, briefings and frequently asked questions (FAQs). it can be found at www.westlancashireccg.nhs.uk/have-your-say/community-health-services/.

Youngsters fly the flag for Queen's birthday

EXCITED young nursery pupils were thrilled to dress up as kings and queens to celebrate the Queen's 90th birthday.

Staff and children at Burscough Village Primary School's nursery were delighted to take part in a red, white and blue Union Jack-themed garden party. They enjoyed a morning of party games, including pass-the-parcel and musical statues, followed by a royal-themed banquet which included red, white and blue foods including jammy scones, strawberries and crisps, plus red, berry-flavoured drinks!

Waving the flag... Burscough Village Primary School at their Royal Birthday party celebrations

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ABOUT COMMUNITY HEALTH SERVICES IN WEST LANCASHIRE

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Come along to one of NHS West Lancashire Clinical Commissioning Group's pop up stands and join the conversation.

Thursday 16 June 2016 — Booths Supermarket, Hesketh Bank, 10.30 – 11.30am
Thursday 16 June 2016 — Tesco Supermarket, Burscough, 12.00 – 1.00pm
Thursday 16 June 2016 — Asda Superstore, Skelmersdale, 2.00 – 3.00pm
Friday 17 June 2016 — Tarleton Library, 10.30 – 11.30am
Friday 17 June 2016 — Halsall Memorial Hall, 2.00 – 3.00pm
Saturday 18 June 2016 — Ormskirk Library, 10.00 – 11.30am
Monday 20 June 2016 — Skelmersdale Library, 5.00 – 6.30pm
Thursday 23 June 2016 — Ormskirk Library, 5.00 – 6.30pm
Friday 24 June 2016 — Parbold Library, 10.00 – 11.00am
Friday 24 June 2016 — Upholland Library, 11.30 – 12.30pm
Tuesday 28 June 2016 — Banks Community Centre, 10.30 - 11.30am

For more information, please contact myview@westlancashireccg.nhs.uk or call 01695 588 203

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01695 588 203

MP and health trust in row over inspection rating

Report by **Henry James**

ROSIE Cooper is urging the health regulator to revisit the rating for Bridgewater Community Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust, which is a preferred bidder for community services contracts in both West Lancashire and Liverpool.

The West Lancs MP has called on the Care Quality Commission to act over what she says is Bridgewater's claims to have a 'good' rating.

However, Bridgewater responded by saying they have never claimed to have a good rating from the commission.

Ms Cooper has accused the trust of using an inspection rating that is "outdated and may even be irrelevant."

The MP says the Bridgewater Trust were inspected as part of the Care Quality Commission's pilot inspection regime and that since then the CQC have toughened up the criteria.

And she has called for the CQC to revisit their inspection to ensure a fair, accurate and comparable rating against other NHS providers.

Ms Cooper commented: "As a preferred bidder for vital community health services it is essential we have an up-to-date and honest assessment of the trust's current quality of services.

MP Rosie Cooper

"The only way we can do this is for them to go through the same tougher inspection regime as other NHS Trusts.

"We cannot afford to wait for accurate information. We need to know their true financial position, and the current quality of their service. We need to know before the Clinical Commissioning Groups make their decision to potentially hand over community services across West Lancashire, Liverpool and Sefton to Manchester's Bridgewater Community Healthcare."

However, Colin Scales, chief executive for Bridgewater Community Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust, told the Champion: "We have contacted Ms Cooper's office to advise of a number of factual inaccuracies that her statement unfortunately includes.

"We have never claimed to have a rating of good from the CQC and we have actually just had our full, planned Care Quality Commission inspection at the start of this month.

"The inspectors spent time with the community services that our staff provide across Cheshire, Merseyside and Greater Manchester and their report will be published in a few months.

"As an NHS foundation trust all of our latest quality and financial information is published openly on our website and those of our regulators.

"I think it's also important to clarify that we are an NHS community trust that is very much part of the NHS and works across the region. Our aim is to use our expertise and experience to make sure local people get the best possible NHS services that they need in their area."

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Dont' pay the penalty, football fans are warned!

AS football fever takes hold following the start of the Euro 2016 tournament, football fans across the county are being warned to enjoy the games 'responsibly.'

A police campaign is focussing on three key areas where officers often see the ugly consequences of the 'Beautiful Game' with incidents of domestic abuse, alcohol fuelled violence and drink or drug driving.

In each case, the message to offenders will be clear – there are no excuses. Don't pay the penalty.

Nationally the reporting of domestic abuse goes up around 25 - 30% during major sporting tournaments, particularly football, and the police are urging victims to seek help by blowing the whistle and reporting what is happening to them. Help and support is available, say police, through Lancashire Victim Services.

When it comes to watching the tournament either out in pubs, bars or at home, the police want people to take responsibility for themselves, their belongings, their property, and drink sensibly, even though it is only a minority of people who get involved in alcohol-related disorder.

Police are also warning motorists not to be tempted to drive under the influence of drugs or alcohol after going to the pub or a friend's house to watch a match.

Chief Inspector Gary Crowe, from Lancashire Constabulary, said: "We want people to enjoy the competition and for those who want to have a drink as well, we would ask that they drink responsibly and not spoil the event for others.

"Throughout the competition, we naturally expect that there will be plenty of people out and about enjoying the games in pubs and bars as well as in their homes. With this in mind there will be additional officers on patrol to provide extra visibility and to help ensure that any celebrations pass off peacefully.

Ch Insp Gary Crowe

"In previous years we have seen the combination of expectations, emotions, warm weather and alcohol consumption result in increased demand on all of the emergency services, often diverting care needed by the most vulnerable in our communities. Take responsibility of yourselves and don't become a drain on resources.

"We want people to enjoy themselves but expect firm, fair and friendly policing. We are not out to spoil your fun however we will take action if anyone is found to be acting irresponsibly in an anti-social or violent manner."

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Local pair have recipe for success in pub chef awards

TWO local hostelries have been commended in a national pub grub competition after being nominated by West Lancs MP, Rosie Cooper.

The Hop Vine in Burscough and The Cricketers in Ormskirk both received commendations in this year's Parliamentary Pub Chef of the Year Awards.

The competition, run jointly by the British Beer and Pub Association and the All-Party Parliamentary Beer Group, seeks nominations from MPs to recognise a pub chef or chefs in their constituency renowned for their great food.

And Rosie Cooper, who had nominated both pubs, went along to both venues to present certificates to Tom Wells, chef at The Cricketers in Chapel Street, and to the kitchen staf at the Hop Vine in Liverpool Road North, led by landlady Julie McCombe.

The West Lancs MP said: "Congratulations to the teams at The Cricketers and The Hop Vine on this fantastic achievement. It is a true recognition of their hard work and the excellent food they serve up every day.

"West Lancashire is full of wonderful pubs acting as important focal points for our communities and it's great to have the opportunity to celebrate them and the dedicated people who run them."

Rosie Cooper presents the certificates to Cricketers' chef Tom Wells (above) and Hop Vine kitchen staff, led by landlady Julie McCombe (below)

ADVERTORIAL

Cloudy2Clear Announce Trusted Trader Partnership

Consumer champions Which? have now joined the thousands of customers who recognise that Cloudy2Clear Windows really are a business that you can TRUST. The company which specialises in repairing windows which are steamed up, broken or damaged by replacing the panes – not the frames has received the coveted 'Which Trusted Trader' status after going through a rigorous accreditation process entirely focussed on customer service.

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Locally Cloudy2Clear service Merseyside & surrounding areas and manager Louis Richards agrees that this approach is a major factor in his success. 'The truth is that it's not just the personal satisfaction that I get from doing a good job but also it makes good business sense. I get a huge amount of business from friends and family of people I've done work for, which just goes to show how much a little bit of effort is appreciated as both my customers and, obviously a body as nationally important as Which? now recognise.'

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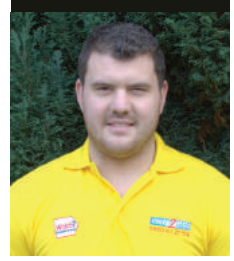

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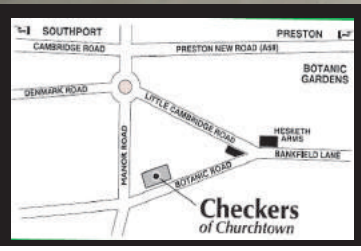

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WIN! tickets to see The Kilkennys at St Helens Theatre Royal

Enjoy the craic with one of Ireland's finest ballad groups!

AS the luck of the Irish would have it, St Helens Theatre Royal has a great night of live Irish music lined-up to get you in the Celtic spirit and transport you to the Emerald Isle.

Ireland's finest ballad group, The Kilkennys will get the crowd going with an evening of live music at the Theatre Royal this Friday, June 17.

The Kilkennys UK Tour 2016 marks the group's return to mainland UK and to many venues where they played previously with their acclaimed tribute to the music of The Clancy Brothers - Fine Girl Ye Are.

The Kilkennys

Renowned for their musicianship and vocal abilities, The Kilkennys have gained a reputation for revitalising traditional Irish music and adding their own touch of passion and youthful energy. Formed at a very young age, this four-piece, traditional Irish band has been entertaining audiences all over the country, and internationally for the past ten years.

Known as one of the hardest working bands in Ireland, The Kilkennys perform the length and breadth of Ireland up to five nights a week and have taken their music as far afield as Las Vegas, Germany, Holland, Belgium, Switzerland, Abu Dhabi and the Czech Republic.

The band have almost three million YouTube hits and a packed schedule of shows for 2016 all over the world. Plus, they have shared the stage with some of Ireland's most prominent folk icons, including Shane McGowan, Finbarr Furey and the late Ronnie Drew.

Band members Davey Cashin, Rob Campion, Tommy Mackey and Davey Long are excited about bringing their brand of Irish music to St Helens.

And they are sure to perform some of their latest hits from their album The Colour of Freedom which was released earlier this month.

Theatre manager Chantelle Nolan said: "The Kilkennys are, without a doubt, one of Ireland's best bands and we're so excited to welcome them to St Helens for what promises to be a great evening of music and song!"

Book in person at the Theatre Royal Box Office Corporation Street, St. Helens, call 01744 756 000, or log on to: www.sthelenstheatreroyal.com

● *To win two tickets to see The Kilkennys on Friday, June 17, at St Helens Theatre Royal, simply email henry. james@champnews.com with the answer to the following question:*

Q: What is The Kilkennys latest album called?

Please include a daytime telephone contact number on your entry which must reach us by noon, June 17. The first correct entry drawn will win two tickets to see the show.

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Breathe Easy group learn the importance of relaxation and stress management

Report by **Henry James**

SPECIALIST occupational therapist, Sally Sharrock was guest speaker at the latest meeting of the West Lancashire and Southport Breathe Easy group.

Sally often gives talks at pulmonary rehabilitation sessions in Ormskirk and is experienced in the problems experienced by respiratory patients and the best ways to help them.

Her presentation at the Girl Guide HQ in Ormskirk was entitled 'What is occupational therapy? Types of intervention, stress management and relaxation'.

She explained how occupational therapy is a varied role, including the use of assessment and treatment to develop, recover, or maintain the daily living and work skills of individuals of all ages and covers both physical and mental health.

It is also holistic in approach.

Patricia Ireland, from the West Lancashire and Southport Breathe Easy group, said: "This was a very useful meeting, focusing on energy conservation, how to pace ourselves, delegate, spread activities and eliminate unnecessary effort, by adapting our environment and/or the tasks we are faced with.

Sally Sharrock

"We also learned about really helpful equipment and ideas to help us in the home and with personal care and how assessment and equipment may be accessed, in both West Lancs and Southport, for instance, from Sefton Social Services OT Team, and about Brighter Futures, in Gillibrands, Skelmersdale, and in Ormskirk, where good-quality reconditioned equipment can be obtained.

Appreciated

"Sally ended her talk reminding the group of the importance of stress management in our lives, and how techniques of both cognitive behavioural therapy and mindfulness are very helpful.

"She also spoke highly of the Living World Group which meets monthly.

"We would like to thank Sally for a most helpful session.

"This was a well-attended meeting and the talk was most appreciated."

The group's next meeting will be held on Monday, June 20, from 11.15am to 12.30 pm when the speaker will be Jenny Goulbourne, who heads the NHS Chronic Care group in Southport.

Looking to join us in September 2017?

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The mayor with members of the Communities Care Forum at Edge Hill University

Mayor gets insight into care forum campaign for OAPs

THE Mayor of West Lancashire has been listening to feedback on how best to unite pensioners' services to enable older people to 'live life to the fullest'.

Councillor Liz Savage attended the latest monthly Communities Care Forum meeting held at Edge Hill University.

She was joined by members of the forum including organisers Gaye Clark and Lesley Malone from the Athena healthcare group, Magda Clarkson from Brookside independent living scheme; Sarah Willmoth, dementia day care officer at Merebrook at Brookside; Louise Cropper from Age UK; Kevin O'Hara from Lancashire Care Support; Dementia Friends Champion Joe Sherville; Alex Vjestica, head of nursing education at Edge Hill University and Pam Briscoe from Mooney Everett solicitors.

The forum was set up last year by Gaye Clark and Lesley Malone to connect organisations associated with elderly people to allow them to receive the best healthcare and to enable them to tackle the issue of social isolation and loneliness in pensioners.

Cllr. Savage also enjoyed a tour of the university's facilities before meeting members of the care forum.

Lesley Malone said: "One of the forum's newest members, Alex Vjestica, head of nursing education at Edge Hill, arranged for a forum meeting to be held at the university, along with a tour for everyone to see what facilities the campus has to offer to young adult learners pursuing future careers especially in health and social care.

"Cllr. Savage attended as she was interested to learn what the care forum is all about and what our involvement is in the local community.

"After the tour, new ideas were discussed and contacts exchanged to help enhance the quality of life for elderly people in the local communities and allow them to live full lives."

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School teams book their places for county games finals

TWO schools from West Lancashire are celebrating after securing two of the few remaining places to represent the borough at the largest youth sporting event in the county, the SPAR Lancashire School Games.

Students from Our Lady Queen of Peace Catholic High School in Skelmersdale took victory in an inclusive orienteering tournament, while Ormskirk School secured first place in a rounders showdown held at Burscough Priory Science College.

The schools will now go on to represent West Lancs at the county finals where they will compete against teams from 14 other Lancashire districts to be named county champion.

Chris Hart, school games organiser for West Lancashire, said: "The SPAR Lancashire School Games is always one of the most highly-anticipated events on the county's school sporting calendar so it's a real honour for schools to go through and represent West Lancashire. I wish the pupils all the very best in Blackpool."

Now in its 10th year, the SPAR Lancashire School Games comprises two main events designed to give all children the opportunity to participate in competitive sport.

Schools battle it out for a place at the county finals to compete against pupils from 15 other districts to be crowned champions in sports including rounders, tennis, orienteering, netball, athletics and gymnastics.

More than 2,400 pupils are expected to take part in the event at Stanley Park, Blackpool on July 5.

Recycling bin mix-up leaves resident puzzled

AN Up Holland man was left scratching his head after the council failed to empty his recycling bin when he put it out for collection.

David Blasbery, 47, of Danbers says he can't understand why the council put a mixed waste sticker on his blue bin as he claims he had followed procedure.

He said: "I can't understand why the council had put a mixed waste sticker on my blue bin as I had done nothing wrong.

"I will now have the inconvenience of going to the tip if I want to empty my blue bin. It will also be two weeks before they come round again to empty it. I was dumbfounded by the situation."

However, a spokesman for West Lancs Council told the Champion: "The council is very proud of its record on recycling and the positive way in which residents across the borough help protect our environment.

"Information is provided on what should go in which bin on collection calendars and also on the council's website."

David Blasbery with his recycling bin

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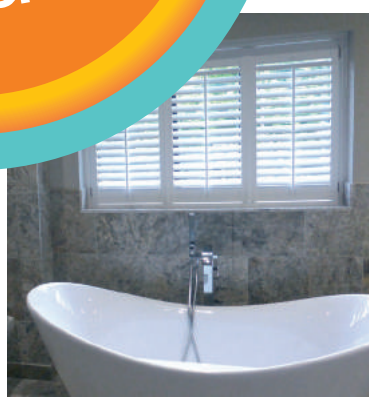

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Police take part in special operation to raise awareness of modern slavery

POLICE officers from Lancashire Constabulary have been taking part in a week of action aimed at raising awareness of modern slavery at premises across West Lancashire.

Operation Hornsman, led by the National Crime Agency's UK Human Trafficking Centre, saw officers across West Lancashire, Preston, South Ribble and Chorley visiting premises, including car washes, nail bars and takeaways, where labour exploitation can commonly occur.

The aim was to help raise awareness of slavery as something not confined to history but still happening today - and happening here in Lancashire.

A total of 20 premises were visited over three days and nearly 70 foreign nationals were spoken with to ensure that they hadn't been trafficked or were being forced to work against their will. Immigration Enforcement arrested five people for immigration offences.

Businesses face a potential penalty of up to £20,000 per illegal worker found, unless the employer can demonstrate the correct right-to-work checks were carried out, such as seeing a passport or Home Office document confirming permission to work.

The county's police and crime commissioner, Clive Grunshaw, said: "It was great to see officers taking action against modern slavery and human trafficking here in Lancashire. It is vital work protecting some of the most vulnerable people in our communities and a growing area of demand for the police. I am committed to ensuring the resources are there for the police to tackle this issue, and the criminals behind it, head on."

Jospice appoint Penny to bring in the pounds!

New fundraising chief has personal experience of importance of hospice care to families as well as patients

Report by **Louisa Austin**

ST JOSEPH'S Hospice (Jospice) has appointed Penny Hamer as director of income generation, following the retirement of Pat Murphy after 40 years service.

Penny, 46, has 20 years' experience in the charity sector, including seven years managing the Co-operative Foundation's charitable trust. She has also worked as regional corporate partnerships manager for the British Heart Foundation and northern development manager for the Retail Trust.

Reporting directly to new chief executive, Mike Parr, she will head up the Thornton-based hospice's fundraising and retail teams, volunteer services and its nine charity shops, which all generate income to provide specialist end of life nursing care to patients from throughout Liverpool, Sefton and West Lancashire.

She said: "Generating funds is vital for the hospice to grow and expand so that we can evolve our services and provide a wider range of support for patients in need of quality end-of-life care, as well as for their families and loved ones.

"I have experienced hospice care myself when my brother sadly passed away following a battle with cancer and so I know first-hand just how special and important hospice care is to families as well as to patients.

"I am delighted to join the team at St Joseph's Hospice at what is a very exciting time as we work towards developing a hospice for the future.

"It's quite simple, the more we can raise, the more help and care we can provide."

Mike Parr added; "Penny brings with her a wealth of experience and we are all looking forward to working with her on developing this very special charity."

Penny Hamer

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The mysteries of time and travel make my head hurt!

SOMETIMES I wish I was of a scientific bent – then again, sometimes I'm very glad I'm not.

Perhaps those of you who have been reading this column for some time might remember that I have this kind of hang-up about the relationship of time and space.

I never could get my head round why some activities involving travel apparently take so much longer than others.

I put this badly. But, for instance, suppose I decided to take today off and do nothing.

Right. I could sit in this chair and read a book all morning. Except I couldn't. After not all that long, I'd decide to go make a coffee.

Then, probably the chair would cease to be all that comfortable, so I might let the dogs out into the back garden and watch them frolic for a while.

Oh, and while I'm on my feet I could make a start on preparing the veg for dinner.

And in the end, I'd probably get back to my book and finish the chapter before deciding that after all, I suppose I could do a little work before lunch.

Now there is nothing wrong with any of that, the time would have passed reasonably profitably.

But what if I had instead been on a train going to (in my case) Norfolk?

I used to do this several times a year when my brother and mum were alive.

They, with the dogs and luggage, would drive to Norfolk while I indulged myself with the Magical Mystery Tour of the Peak District and the Fens which the railway calls the 'direct' train to Norwich.

Actually, point to point the train takes about as long as the car, but counting the fiddly bits at each end the car is quicker – which is why brother George could set off at much the same time as me and still be able to pick me up at a fairly remote branch-line station in rural Norfolk.

The difference though was terrific.

I would have spent virtually all day sitting in one seat on one train with nothing to do but admire the passing scenery and dip into my novel.

And hand on heart, I can say I enjoyed every minute of it.

What I can't say is 'why?' Now that I have to travel to Norfolk as a passenger in a very comfortable vehicle, getting there in much the same time, I confess I am tempted every few miles disingenuously to ask: "Are we there yet?"

Try as I might, I just cannot work out why the train journey also acts as a sort of time machine in that time seems somehow to get condensed, while a car journey of the same length, with folk I like, seems to drag on for at least twice as long.

Even over far shorter distances the same phenomena holds true when each Monday and Friday I use the bus to get to Southport and back.

There are plenty more examples involving TV programmes, cruising down rivers, for that matter having a bath or doing the washing up, where time, distance and awareness seem inextricably to get mixed up.

Often I have either actually said aloud, or even just to myself, "well, that was a right old waste of time." And what did I really mean my that? That 'it' got me no further forward in life's big scheme of things? That it didn't achieve whatever I hoped 'it' might? That no-one else had noticed what I was up to (and therefore I might just as well have not done whatever 'it' was?)

On the other hand, think of those often trivial things which have made time speed by. A casual remark, a kind smile.

But my point is, assuming I have one, there seems no particular link between those things which speed time and those which slow it down.

Or, for that matter, has anyone the faintest idea of how long 'normal' time takes – if you get my drift.

I sit here and look at my watch. So far, this column has taken up just under an hour of 'time'. If I had been doing anything else – a crossword perhaps – would it seem to have taken more or less time?

My head hurts. I think I'll lie down for a bit. Except that would be a waste of time, wouldn't it?

Got a story? Ring the News Desk on 01704 392400

Help for eating disorders

HEALTH professionals at Lancashire Care NHS Foundation Trust are encouraging people concerned about their eating habits or those of someone they know to contact them for support.

Eating disorders are serious mental illnesses affecting 725,000 men and women of all ages and backgrounds in the UK.

The Eating Disorder Service at Lancashire Care provides help and support to adults aged 16 years and over who are living with an eating disorder.

The team provides help in many forms including supported eating, psychological therapy and help with managing physical health issues associated with an eating disorder.

The service also offers support for people caring for someone living with an eating disorder in the form of peer support groups as well as directly with members of the team.

Shelley French, eating disorder service manager at Lancashire Care NHS Foundation Trust, said it was important for people to seek help both for someone living with an eating disorder and for those who will be supporting that person.

She said: "Our teams are made up of GPs, nurses, clinical psychologists and dieticians who can provide a rounded package of care for our service users. When people refer into our service we create a tailor made treatment package to help them in their recovery, as well as providing support and information for people who may be assisting the individual."

For more information about the Eating Disorder Service and your local team visit www.lancashirecare.nhs.uk/eating-disorders.

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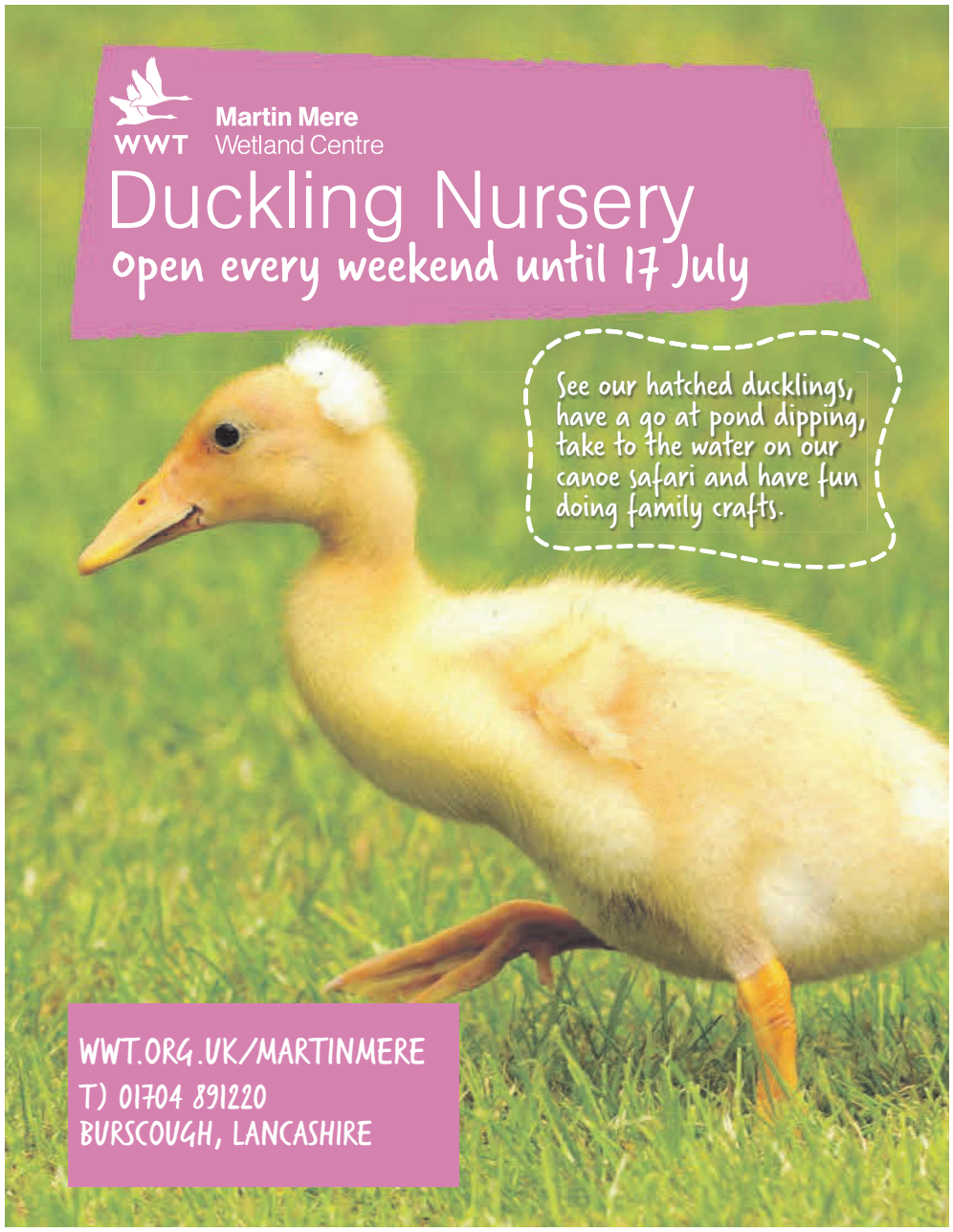
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BURSCOUGH, LANCASHIRE

Traveller site work to be suspended

THE preparation of the Traveller Sites Development Plan Document for West Lancashire was due to be suspended at a meeting of the council cabinet last night (Tuesday, June 14).

Officers have recommended that the issue be dealt with as part of the future review of the Local Plan.

The borough council participated in a joint Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation assessment (GTAA) with five Merseyside local authorities. The Merseyside and West Lancashire GTAA (August 2014) concluded that the need for new traveller accommodation in West Lancashire, additional to that which already has permission, is as follows: 14 pitches on permanent gypsy and traveller sites by 2018, rising to 17 pitches by 2023, 20 pitches by 2028, and 22 pitches by 2033; four transit pitches; and one yard for Travelling showpeople with at least one residential plot.

Land at Sugar Stubbs Lane, North Meols; Pool Hey Caravan Park, Pool Hey Lane, Scarisbrick and land West of The Quays, Burscough were chosen as preferred options in the Options and Preferred Options Traveller sites DPD, which was subject to public consultation from December 3, 2015 to January 25 2016.

But now officers are looking at delaying any decision on the issue until the next Local Plan Review process, which is likely to take place from 2017-2020.

Officers wrote in a report for last night's cabinet meeting: "This work is more likely to yield deliverable sites than the work undertaken so far on the Traveller Sites DPD, as the council will be able to take a more comprehensive approach towards allocating land for development, combining proposed Traveller sites with sites for other uses such as housing, thereby giving landowners greater incentive to agree to their land being used to help meet Traveller accommodation needs."

Officers believe given the severe shortfall in deliverable sites to meet Traveller needs, there is a significant likelihood the Traveller sites DPD would be found unsound, were it to be submitted for examination. Instead of "incurring unnecessary" expenditure on a failed examination, officers believe it would be "preferable" to suspend the preparation of the Travellers sites DPD and to address the issue of Traveller site provision as the Local Plan is reviewed.

If Cabinet were to accept the recommendation of the officers, work on the Travellers DPD would stop, and a fresh consideration of how best to meet the needs of Travellers will be undertaken as part of the next review of the Local Plan.

However if cabinet wished to proceed with the matter and approved the Traveller Sites DPD for public consultation, this would take place for eight weeks between Thursday, July 7 and Thursday, September 1.

The traveller site plan has been suspended

Report by **Henry James**

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Long-serving GP dies at 75

TRIBUTES have been paid to a long-serving and much-loved Ormskirk GP who has died at the age of 75.

Dr Akhilesh Kumar Varma, who practised at the town's Stanley Street surgery for 30 years before retiring in 2007, passed away on Wednesday, June 8 surrounded by his family.

His son, Sushant Varma, told the Champion: "My father was a much-loved family doctor who served the people of Ormskirk between 1977 and 2007, often looking after three generations of the same family.

"Also, he has never formally been recognised for something which he initiated in the 1970s and which has impacted on millions of people, even to this day.

"In those days a young man called Mr. Clumpus from Harval chemists came to him and said he wasn't getting many prescriptions.

"Dad told him to get one of his staff to pop along around midday to pick up the repeat prescriptions. If a patient phoned up wanting a repeat prescription they were told that the prescription could be delivered to the pharmacy and their medication dispensed ready for collection.

Dr Akhilesh Kumar Varma

"Then pharmacies up and down the UK picked up on dad's idea, saving lots of people a lot of time but to this day he has never been officially recognised for this."

The funeral will be held at West Lancashire Crematorium in Burscough at 12.15pm on Friday, June 24 and members of the public are welcome to attend.

Solicitors' £10,000 boost for Rainbow House

A CHARITY for children and young adults with disabilities has been given a five-figure boost in the shape of a £10,000 donation by a firm of solicitors.

Rainbow House in Mawdesley will use the funds to continue to provide vital services to children with brain injuries following the generation gift by Manchester-based JMW Solicitors' team of specialist medical negligence solicitors.

Carole Cochrane, chief executive at Rainbow House said: "JMW have supported us for many years and we are delighted that this will continue. Both the charity and individual families have benefited from their financial contribution and their advice."

Eddie Jones at JMW, said: "Our team specialises in obtaining compensation for children disabled because of mistakes by healthcare professionals. We know the struggles that families with disabled children face and the difference Rainbow House can make to their lives ."

Petrol station proposal

PLANS to create a new petrol station and three new units at land north of Pippin Street in Burscough have been submitted to West lancs Council.

Applicant Bentley Investments Inc is seeking planning permission for the erection of the units and station plus kiosk, access, parking, servicing and landscaping at land north of the junction of Pippin Street and Liverpool Road South.

Residents have until Friday, June 24 to submit their views on the plan to the council

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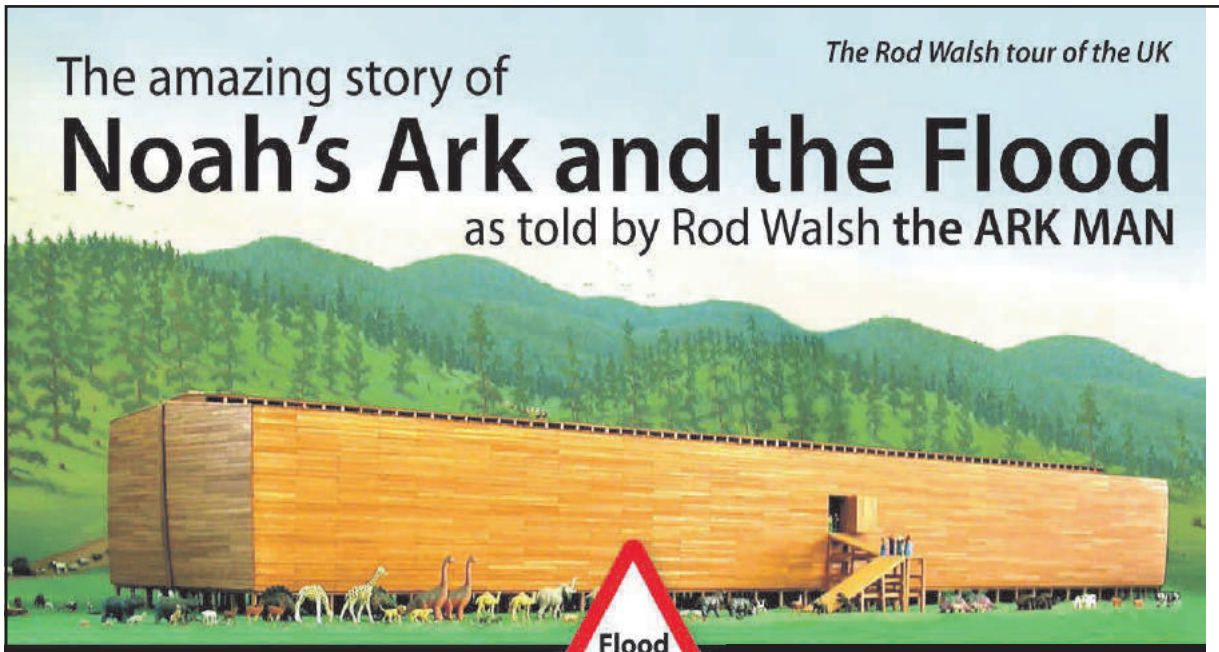
The amazing story of

Noah's Ark and the Flood

as told by Rod Walsh the ARK MAN

The Rod Walsh tour of the UK



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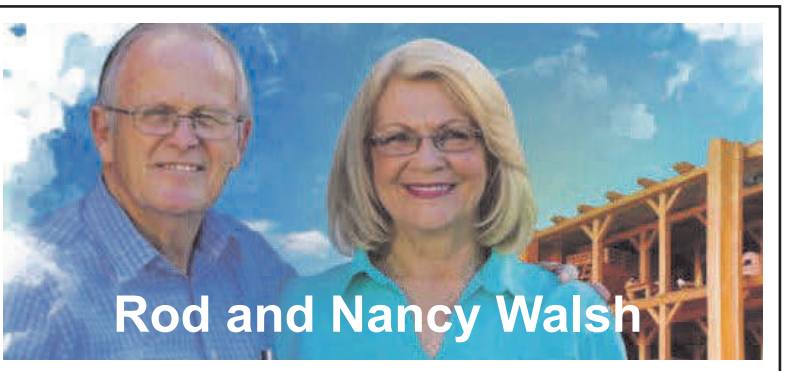

Rod and Nancy Walsh

Have you ever questioned Noah's Ark and the Genesis Flood? - Don't miss this unique opportunity to hear Rod as he teaches on the reality of the Great Flood of Noah's day and the Ark he was commissioned to build.

Rod draws from his own in-depth study, over many years, showing exactly how feasible the biblical Ark was.

Have you ever wondered:

- How big was the Ark and how did all the animals fit?
- Could ancient people really build such a structure?
- Were dinosaurs on the Ark?
- Where did the water come from?
- Where did all the water go after the Flood?
- What evidence do we see today for a global Flood
- How could the world have been repopulated in just 4,500 years since the Flood?

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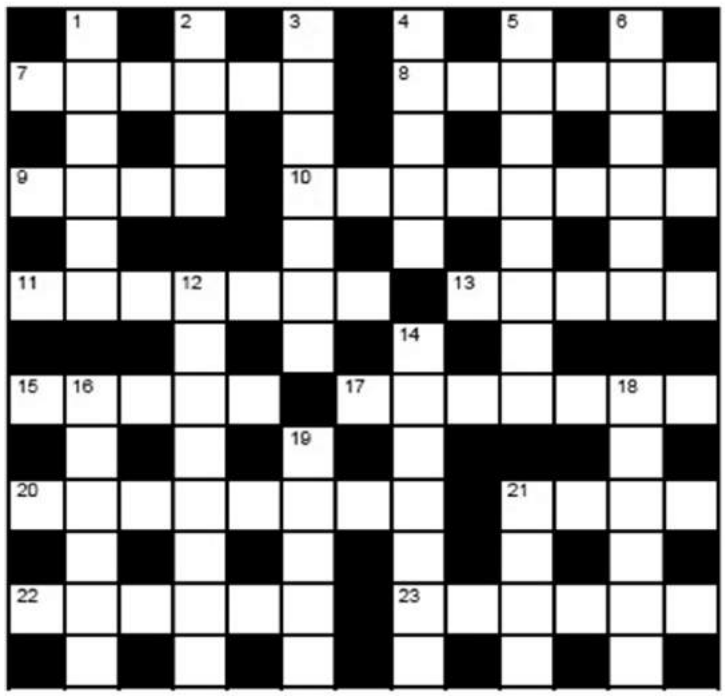

Last week's solutions:

Across: 7 Commercialism. 8 Escalate. 9 Dear. 10 Montage. 12 Orbit. 14 Fetch. 16 Thirsty. 19 Scud. 20 Yielding. 22 Umbilical cord.

Down: 1 Tops. 2 Impart. 3 Arrange. 4 Rivet. 5 Glider. 6 Essayist. 11 Overcome. 13 Cheetah. 15 Caddie. 17 Reduce. 18 Cynic. 21 Norm.

ACROSS

7 Introduce air into (6)
8 To soak up (6)
9 Weep or cry noisily (4)
10 Grace, stylishness (8)
11 Member of a nomadic tribe of Arabs (7)
13 Jewelled ornamental band worn on the front of a woman's hair (5)
15 Bicycle designed for speed (5)
17 Depart from a set course (7)
20 Diverse, broad-based (8)
21 Carry the weight of (4)
22 Potassium compound used to improve soil or to make soap (6)
23 Foam, soapsuds (6)

DOWN

1 Relating to women (6)
2 Prison (4)
3 Advantage gained from something (7)
4 Payment for work done (5)
5 Radioactive element, atomic number 85 (8)
6 Retailer of food and small household items (6)
12 Eavesdrop (8)
14 Small flute (7)
16 Major South American river (6)
18 Small pointed beard (6)
19 Hawaiian greeting word (5)
21 Cut into with teeth (4)

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On your bikes!

Call for people to swap horsepower for pedal power

Linda van der Haar wants more people to try cycling

A CYCLING enthusiast is urging West Lancs residents to swap four wheels for two during National Bike Week (June 11-19).

Linda van der Haar is the business manager for Bike & Go, whose distinctive red hire bikes readers can be seen at railway stations across the North West, including Ormskirk station.

She is from the Netherlands – the 'cycling capital of the world' - and hopes that UK resdients will use National Bike Week as an opportunity to adopt the Dutch attitude to cycling and to start using their bikes to get around.

Linda said: "I've been cycling since the age of three, because that's just what everyone does in The Netherlands.

"People don't see cycling as a one-off summer activity, but as a way of getting from A to B all year round.

"Since moving here, I've been so impressed with the lovely back roads that can be found just moments away from the main A roads, which means that people don't always have to join the traffic to enjoy cycling.

"When using my bike to get around, I tend to wear whatever I have on at the time.

"If I'm already wearing a pair of jeans and I want to go to the shops, I'll just cycle in those, and when I cycle to work I wear my work outfit.

"I know I won't be cycling at 20 miles per hour, so I don't need to wear specialist bike clothing.

"Cycling has numerous health and wellbeing benefits, as well as being great for the environment, so this National Bike Week jump on your bikes and find a new way of getting around."

Free computer courses to be held in Burscough

FREE computer courses are being held to help Burscough residents to become technology-savvy.

The Burscough Hub has teamed up with the Workers Educational Association, who provide courses for adults, to stage the sessions, which will run from 6 to 8.30pm on Tuesday evenings and 10am to 12.30pm on Wednesdays.

The five-week courses will start on Tuesday and Wednesday, June 21 and 22 and will be held at the methodist church hall.

The classes will be suitable for absolute beginners and for 'improvers', and learners can bring their own computer or tablet or use one provided.

To book a place call the parish council office on 01704 894914 or email admin@burscoughpc.org.uk.

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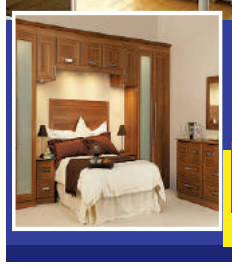

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High-flying fun at a previous Beacon Country Park Kite Festival

Kite-flying fans set to return to Beacon Park for 11th annual festival

Feast of family fun in store at fabulous free extravaganza

THE annual Beacon Country Park Kite Festival returns for the 11th time this Sunday (June 19) at the park in Up Holland.

Because of the park's unique position, overlooking much of Cheshire and Merseyside, kites flown there can be seen for miles.

On display will be kites of every shape and size, including large inflatable animals, oriental kites, bird kites and stunt kites.

The festival will also feature the traditional Altitude Sprints, where kite-fliers aim to be the highest in the sky after a timed interval.

The event offers fun and entertainment for all the family and as well as watching the kites on display there is plenty of space for families to fly their own kites.

A highlight of the day, particularly for young children, will be a supervised mass fly of Rainbow Delta Kites in the arena.

The Northern Kite Group will loan 20 of the kites out and experienced kite flyers will ensure each child has an experience to remember.

The festival is presented by the Northern Kite Group in association with the West Lancashire Ranger Service.

Admission is free and the festival starts at 10am.

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People living with diabetes urged to ask DESMOND...

Health professionals say education programme will help sufferers to better understand and control the condition

TO coincide with Diabetes Awareness Week (June 12-18) health professionals from Lancashire Care NHS Foundation Trust are calling on people with the condition to educate themselves about it by using its DESMOND programme.

DESMOND (Diabetes Education and Self-Management for On-going and Newly Diagnosed) is a national programme designed to support people living with Type 2 diabetes.

The programme is a way to find out more about diabetes and to share experiences with others.

Christine Elwell, diabetes education co-ordinator at Lancashire Care NHS Foundation Trust, said: "Diabetes Awareness Week is a great opportunity to demystify the myths and taboos surrounding the condition.

"There are a staggering number of people living with diabetes and the numbers are estimated to increase.

"In the UK alone there are some 3.5 million people diagnosed with the condition and a further 549,000 who have the condition but do not know."

Fellow diabetes education co-ordinator, Gareth Beck, added: "Ensuring that members of the public living with diabetes know how to successfully manage their condition is our priority and utilising the DESMOND programme ensures that we can provide that education.

"It's important that anyone living with the condition knows there is free and helpful education out there so if you need advice about any of the above or need to talk to someone, contact the local team responsible for your care."

DESMOND is open to people with Type 2 diabetes however long they have had a diagnosis.

Trained

You can self-refer or be referred by health professionals. The idea is to empower people to self-manage their diabetes, improve glycaemic control, and reduce blood pressure, weight and waist circumference.

Attending a DESMOND session will help someone to understand how food, activity and medication affect their control, what the long-term risks of living with Type 2 diabetes are and how an individual might reduce these risks.

A team of nurses, dietitians, podiatrists and lay educators from the diabetes team at Lancashire Care NHS Foundation Trust are trained to deliver DESMOND to small groups of people with Type 2 diabetes. The sessions are free and attendees are welcome to bring along a partner, family member or friend.

The theme of this year's Diabetes Week is 'Setting the Record Straight.'

To find out more, contact the DESMOND office on 01772 777620 or email desmond@lancashirecare.nhs.uk.

Alternatively, you can speak to your GP, practice nurse or health care professional. For general advice on diabetes, call the Diabetes UK Helpline on 0345 123 2399 or visit www.diabetes.org.uk.

Got a story? Ring the Champ News Desk on 01704 392400 or email us at editorial@champnews.com

Skem company's royal award ceremony date

THE Lord-Lieutenant of Lancashire, Lord Shuttleworth will attend Aqua Fabrications Ltd. in Garnett Place, East Gillibrands on Tuesday, July 5 to present the drainage manufacturing company with the Queen's Award for Enterprise in Innovation.

The ceremony will start at approximately noon when Lord Shuttleworth will meet staff and guests and take a tour of the company, followed by a light lunch.

Mayor of West Lancashire, Councillor Liz Savage will also be attending the ceremony.

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The new Leaf and Vine in Parbold

Former greengrocers takes on new identity

A FORMER greengrocers in Parbold has reopened as a cross between a shop and a wine bar.

The shop, at 1 The Common, reopened recently as the Leaf & Vine.

It will continue to offer fresh fruit and vegetables but will also carry a range of new products including delicatessen items, wines and craft beers.

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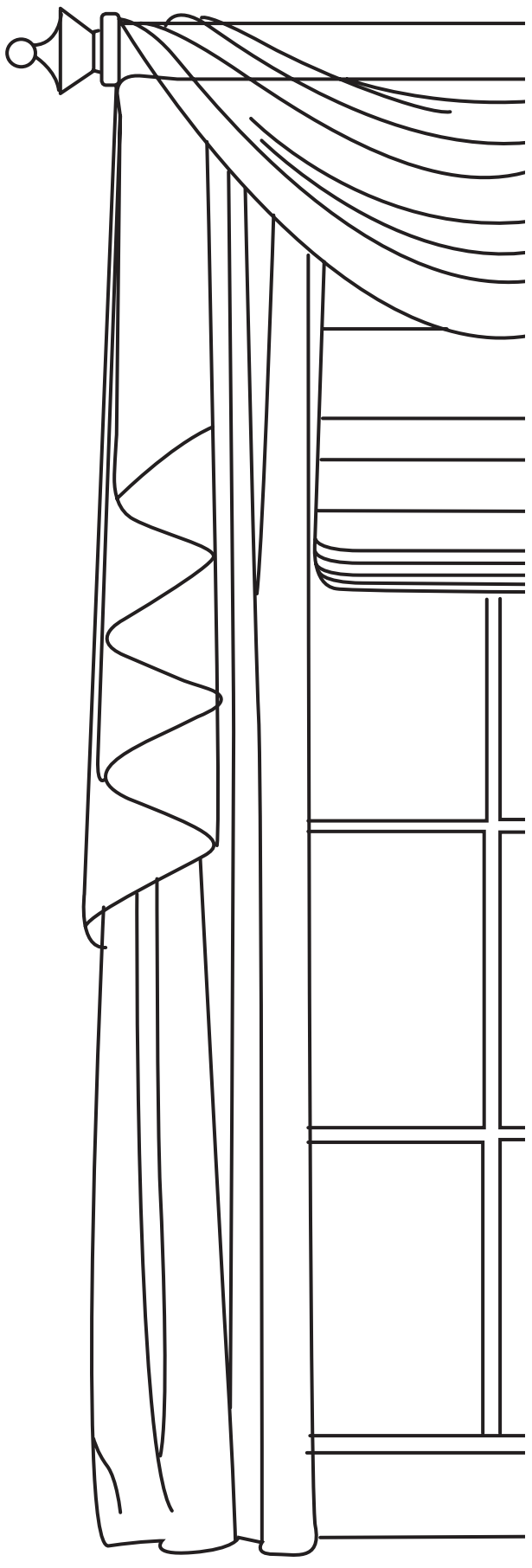

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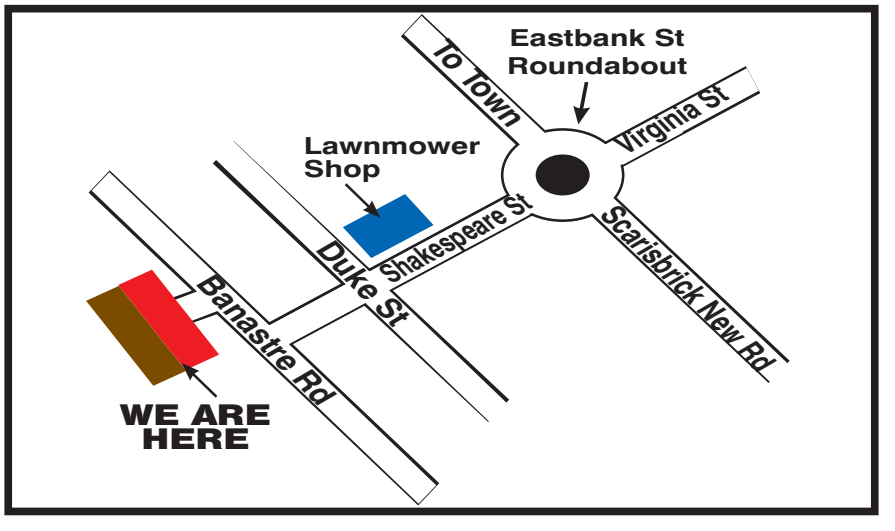

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Crowds expected to flock to rally

WOODVALE Rally takes place this weekend (June 18/19) when visitors are expected to flock to the Victoria Park showground in Southport.

This year organisers have once again secured a wide range of attractions for enthusiasts, collectors and those looking for a fun-filled, value for money weekend.

And they are delighted that the model aircraft will be returning to the event. The Liverpool and District Model Aircraft Society (LADMAS) will have 'planes flying on both days from 10am until 4.30pm.

There will also be static models on display and flight simulators so visitors can fly the models on three TV screens. A large model Lancaster 'plane and other jets will also be taxiing twice a day and jet engines will also be running.

Peter Wood, Rally general manager, said: "We are so pleased the model aircraft are coming back to the show after a two year break. They will put on a great display with lots for the public to see and try out.

"We have found Victoria Park to be the perfect venue for the show with its excellent layout and facilities.

"The event is a great value day out which truly caters for all the family. We look forward to welcoming the crowds once again this weekend."

Believed to be the oldest surviving Vulcan motor-car in the world will also be making a nostalgic trip back to its hometown when it goes on display at the show on Sunday.

The Vulcan Motor and Engineering Company manufactured the 10hp, twin cylinder model with two seats in Southport in 1904.

A 1907 Paterson, which has won the car section before, will also be on display along with other classic and vintage cars, model trains and boats, stationary engines, classic and vintage motorcycles and clubs and more military vehicles than ever before.

The main arena will see Jema Leopold with her amazing performing horses and martial arts displays. The West Lancashire Dog Display Team will also be showing the crowds just what they can do with two shows on both day.

The crazy bears entertain the crowds at last year's festival

The always-popular Crazy Bears – Sweet Tooth, Candy, Honey, Popsy, Rocky and Smarty -will also take to the stage to entertain the children.

Other attractions include giant slides, craft and food marquee, giant car boot, collectors fair, Morris dancing and numerous trade stands.

And the 125 Field Company, Army Reserves of the Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers (REME), a Merseyside unit that specialises in vehicle maintenance, will also be running workshops.

This year will also see many bands performing including Mike Byrne and the Sunrockers, Skelmersdale Prize Brass Band and in the bar marquee there will be music all weekend.

Parking costs £2 at Princes Park and admission at the gate is £5 for adults, £2 for children (5-15) and the under 5s are free.

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Martin Mere news

The country has just celebrated National Volunteering Week and WWT Martin Mere Wetland Centre is taking the opportunity to thank all of our volunteers for their hard work over the last 70 years with WWT and 41 years with Martin Mere.

Volunteer Development Officer, Amy Hannah, said: "We now have over 180 volunteers at Martin Mere. Nationally, we have over 900 volunteers, we quite simply couldn't function without them. It's great that we can use national volunteering week to really say thank you for all their hard work, especially as the Trust is celebrating its 70th anniversary this year. Volunteering gives opportunities, our youngest 16 year olds volunteer to stand out on their university and job applications, whilst our mature volunteers can learn new skills and meet new friends. Our oldest volunteer was 89 years old which shows it is never too late to come and volunteer at Martin Mere."

The centre is currently looking for enthusiastic volunteers of all ages to come and join our education, visitor services and canoe safari team this summer.

The roles that the Centre specifically needs to recruit are volunteers to work with our education team to do weekend and holiday activities which could include bug hunts, pond dipping, family crafts and giving out passports as part of our Nature Explorer summer activities that also includes the return of the Lego brick animals; in addition volunteers are needed to help with the canoe safari attraction to join the team offering this award winning facility; and also to meet and greet visitors on our visitor services team.

For more information about volunteering call the centre on 01704 891220 during the week, email: info.martinmere@wwt.org.uk or go online to complete an application at: http://www.wwt.org.uk/support/volunteer-with-wwt/volunteering-opportunities/

In other news at the centre, the crown cranes are now sat on eggs and there have been good sightings of a hobby, 2 cuckoos, black-tailed godwits, little ringed plover, redshank, lapwing, oystercatcher and avocet. The duckling nursery will remain open at the weekends until 17 July to allow everyone to come and see our ducklings as they grow.

WWT Martin Mere is open every day from 9.30am to 6pm and parking is free of charge. Situated off the A59, it is signposted from the M61, M58 and M6. The Centre is also accessible via the Southport to Manchester and the Liverpool to Preston line by train from Burscough Rail Stations. Visit the web site http://www.wwt.org.uk/martinmere/ to find out what's on all year round at Martin Mere and the other eight centres.

Visit the web site www.wwt.org.uk/martinmere to find out what's on the reserve at the moment as well as all the upcoming events

Champion ENTERTAINMENT

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www.champnews.com

CBeebies' TV star making a 'magical' appearance at panto

'MIRROR Mirror on the wall, who is the fairest of them all?' is going to be an important question at Southport Theatre come the festive season, and one that will be answered by children's television favourite Justin Fletcher!

Justin will be making a special appearance via video projection as the Magic Mirror.

Steve Boden from Imagine Theatre, who are once again producing the pantomime in Southport, explained a little more about how it works. "Justin appears in our magic mirror sequence via a pre-recorded video projection.

"It is a fabulous special effect as the mirror dominates the stage and Justin, as always, gives a wonderfully comical performance - I think our Magic Mirror is probably the funniest in pantoland!

"It is great to watch the interaction between him and the Wicked Queen as he tells her she is no longer the fairest in the land as, needless to say, it is not what she wants to hear! Although Justin is not there in person the children still get very excited when the mirror comes to life and they see him for the first time."

Justin Fletcher

The traditional tale of Snow White, familiar to many from the Disney movie, has a special panto style twist with the inclusion of the hilarious Dame Dolly Mixture and Jingles the Jester, loyal friends of Snow White out to thwart the evil plot of the Wicked Queen.

Snow White runs from Friday 9 – Saturday, December 31.

For more information or to book tickets call 0844 871 3021 or visit www.atgtickets.com/southport

Streets of village to resound to beat of the Samba drum

THE streets of Newburgh will resound to the beat of Samba drums as the Newburgh Fair procession moves off at 12pm on Saturday, June 25.

"We're bringing a touch of Latin America to the Olympics-themed event which we're calling Rio de Newburgh", said Fiona Casey, chair of Newburgh Fair Association. "Worldwise Samba Drummers from Preston will set the mood for the day with their exciting rhythms as we parade through the village.

"There will also be a vivid splash of Rio colour in the procession from children's costumes which they are making in special workshops."

The Rio theme will be picked up on Saturday night when a ticket-only carnival celebration will shimmy along with Liverpool-based Viva Brasil dancers. "Expect energetic dance acts and hip-shaking rhythms," said Fiona.

During the day Extreme Adventure is bringing the UK's first mobile Ninja Warrior assault course to the school field with challenging versions for both adults and children. Youngsters will also be able to compete with their friends in a NERF attack and target zone, and visit a free children's zoo.

The Fair will continue to stage its traditional events including the Rose Queen crowning – with the addition this year of a competition for a Carnival king and princes with prizes – Morris dancing, at least 35 stalls, a Craft Fair for all age groups, sizzling barbecues with meat and vegetarian offerings, afternoon teas and an afternoon bar.

"All in all, enough for a jolly good Lancashire family day out," said Fiona.

Newburgh Morris dance their way through the village during the 2014 Fair.

The full programme for the week of the Fair is: Tues, June 21 7pm Douglas Valley Lions Bingo Night; Wed, June 22 7pm Lancashire Night with "Tacklers Tales" Tickets inc Hot Pot and entertainment; Thurs, June 23 7pm Ladies Night Tickets inc food and entertainment; Fri, June 24 7pm Talent Show for all ages and Karaoke; Sat, Jun 25 12pm Rio de Newburgh street procession, 1pm Fair. Adults £2 Under 16s free- 7pm Carnival Night; Sun, Jun 26 3pm Newburgh Christ Church Family Service.

Tickets for the events including pre-paid fair admission from Fiona Casey Tel 01257 463837 or email fionacasey@live.com

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South Pacific was an enchanted evening

South Pacific
Maghull Musical Theatre Company
Southport Little Theatre

ALMOST 70 years ago Mary Martin washed Ezio Pinza right out of her hair in the 1949 Broadway production that won ten Tony awards, writes Jenny Robson.

Since then Rodgers and Hammerstein have thrilled audiences with their stunning music and lyrics that tell the story of the WW2 American naval base on an island in the South Pacific where 'the sky is a bright canary yellow'.

American nurse, Nellie Forbush, is the central character who falls in love with plantation owner Emile de Becque. Kay Williams and Mark Duffy were well-cast as the romantic couple.

When Nellie discovers that the dead mother of Emile's two children was a dark-skinned Polynesian girl her racial prejudice surfaces and threatens their relationship.

She finds the children - Ngana (Leah Chaffin-Power) and Jerome (Elliott Heap) – endearing and cute but feels she must leave Emile ... and the island.

Alongside is a secondary romance being egged on by Bloody Mary (Jan Monkley) between her Tonkinese daughter Liat (Phoebe Hill) and Lt Joe Cable (Matt Casson). But what would Joe's folks back home think?

The costumes and sets were aptly tropical with the characters having a lovely blend of voices to complement the score. Andrew Standeven stepped in as musical director with his accomplished musicians after the recent death of Malcolm Fallows to whose memory this production was dedicated.

Act One would have benefitted from more spark so I was pleased when Act Two sprang into life with more emotion, happy choreography and extra humour from Billis (Les Gomersall) and Stewpot (Eric Fletcher) with the whole cast seemingly being more in tune with each other.

The classic songs were a joy; Some Enchanted Evening, Bali Ha'i, Younger Than Springtime. And Mark Duffy's rich voice singing This Nearly Was Mine was a show-stopper!

Score: 7/10 – Light-hearted, funny, some sadness but a happy ending. Jolly well done!

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EVENTS - OUT & ABOUT

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29th June - Aintree, The Railway Club, Melling Rd, L9 0LQ
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Sunday 19th June 10:30am - 5pm

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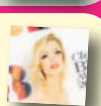
FRI 1ST JULY Michael Buble (Tribute)

SAT 9TH JULY Scott Monty (Boogie Nights)

SAT 2ND JULY Katherine Jenkins (Tribute)



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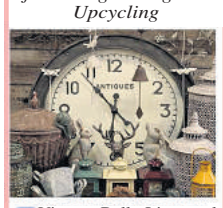

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MOBILITY BED Tempur System2000 Electric mobility bed 4ft-6 x 6ft-6. Memory foam mattress 12' deep perfect condition £650 bargain (formby) 01704621415

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FRIDGE Larder/under the counter fridge. 'Proline' £45. Glass shelves. Excellent working order surplus to requirements. Maghull 07923602895

VINTAGE TREDALS Sewing machine upright £69 0151 9200342

LAMINATE FLOORING £5 a pack 01744 632889

LARGE KITCHEN Unit, painted white, ONO £20 0151 9246111

LARGE DROP Table, oak, ONO £10 0151 9246111

JAY-BE Guest bed, unused £25 07847 321357

MICROWAVE Only £10 01704 526073

VAX CARPET Shampoo, ONO, £25 01704 5260731

HOTPOINT FREEZER 12 months old, excellent condition, ONO £75 07872 300157

CREDA TUMBLE Dryer, very good condition £30 07872 300157

OIL HEATER Free standing, very good condition £10 01704 539841

2 DRAWER Filing cabinet, metal, pink/white 16" wide, 26.5" high, depth 16" 01704 539841

RECLINER CHAIR Red, material nearly new brought for £250 selling for £100, ONO 07928954188

BECK GAS Cooker, 60cm wide, model no BDVG97SP, excellent condition, £70 01704 893644

HOUSE AND HOME

VANITY SINK Unit, 102cm, 33cm x 78cm high, base with ceramic basin 07860814584

VACUUM CLEANER Henry type, complete, in good working order £40 0151 5272392

HOTPOINT INDERSIT Drive motor for washing machine, new £25 07710 054181

FREE Hostess trolley, perfect working condition 01695 423923

GREY PADDED Office, swivel chair, height adjustable, Bargain at £10 01704 546833

LARGE BROWN Leather booth, excellent condition, ONO £45 01704 5260731

SINGLE DIVAN bed and mattress, as new £95 01704 870843

BROWN LEATHER reclining chair, vgc, smoke and pet free home £25 0151 4749540

MATCHING LAMPS 2 gold and cream shades, gold stands with crystal, £30 pair. 07784 063827

HOOVER DISCOVERY as new £30, red and very good suction and tools 07784 063827

ETERNAL BEAU 8 place dinner and tea service, 50 pieces in all, £50 0151 5264494

SINGLE DIVAN Mattress and headboard, sliding doors in base for storage. Barely used as new. 01695 729949

TABLE TOP Oven by Silvercrest with grill and rotisserie, never used, instructions included. £40 01704 538452

4FT SOFABED Zip off, loose covers. Metal Frame, excellent condition ONO £150 07847 321357

SAMSUNG 40" Flat screen LCD TV, full freeview, great picture, can be seen working £100 01695 574806

SOFA BED 4ft, duet zip off, loose cover, metal frame, very comfortable, VGC £150 07847 321357

CHESTERFIELD SETEE green. immaculate condition, house move forces sale, absolute bargain £300 0151 5261649

PANASONIC 36" tv with freeview, perfect condition and working order £95 ono 01704 870843

PINE WARDROBE free standing double doors with internal shelf, excellent condition £50 07930 154874

LARGE BLACK genuine cast iron griddle pan, ideal for cooking steaks, burgers etc, hardly used £8 0151 3783627

LARGE MIRROR print of scaffolding New York on tea break, as seen in office of Man Utd, very large £50 07784 063827

MORPHY RICHARDS toaster, cream and stainless steel, excellent condition, 4 slice model £20 01704 871081

TEAK NATHAN Set of furniture, including: dining table and chairs, tv unit, coffee table and display unit, ONO £150 0151 5202500

BATHROOM CABINET Double mirror, shelves and shaver socket and light. 60cm x 80cm matching storage unit 83cm x 30cm £10 each 01704 874228

WALNUT DRESSING Table, used as desk, shaped font, glass topped, lovely condition, matching dressing table and bedside table 01704 506539

NEW WORLD Built in gas double over, unused still in packaging, black and stainless steel, buyer must collect, ONO £180 07984 129706

CONSERVATORY CANE Suite, 2 seater settee, 2 chairs, excellent condition, honey colour cane, new with cover, main colour sea green £100 0151 4744261

LIGHT OAK Veneer desk 126" x 59" x 72". Green drawers on one side and shelves on the other. Suit student/office/sturdy £30 01704 546833

BEIGE LEATHER sofa, 1 chair, vgc £150 ono. Also marble hearth back, mahogany surround, 48", £150 ono 07507 894999

HOUSE AND HOME

MONOBLOC kitchen mixer taps, chrome finish, unused £15. Kitchen cupboard carcass, 1000mm double wall, white £6, unused, boxed. 01257 464242

HOTPOINT ULTIMA AQUARIUS washer dryer, as new, must be seen £200. Pine coffee table £10. Two cork tables £10 01704541501

NOLTE MOBEL Beech bedroom furniture (fitted) five door wardrobes, two mirrors, four shelves, bedside table, dressing table, two sets of drawers 01704 569974

SIDE TABLE vintage barley twist table 22"×15"×28" high.£25.00. 01704 224039

ROCKING FOOT STOOL Wooden frame, newly recovered seat, in good condition, beige in colour, led to believe manufactured by Lazy boy.£35.00 07434841029

SUITE Two seater sofa and two chairs very spacious size. All seats recline. Suede material. Taupe Colour. Good condition.£250 01704 560540

LEONARDO COLLECTION ornaments - 2, a lion and a cheetah, both on a craggy rock. £3 each or £5 for 2. 07821417560

MIRROR 52"X17" med brown solid wood frame with carved edging/gold gilt inlay. Ex con. Reduced to £35 07821417560

NAO GOOSE ornament - in perfect condition, unmarked. Can be collected from Aughton/Skem. No texts please. £15 ono. 07821417560

CERAMIC BREAD BIN cream circular 15" tall, the word BREAD is inscribed at its base. In VGC. Collection from Aughton/Skem. £6 07821417560

KITCHEN CHAIRS - 2. Light coloured wood with winter white wooden seat + back rest. Seat h/17". Bought at Ikea. VGC. £15ono 07821417560

PYREX MICROWAVE browning/casserole dish 22cmx22cm. white ceamic, glass lid. Little used, clean and in ex con. £8 ono 07821417560

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DINING TABLE mahogany dining table + 4 chairs.seats 6 when extended.very good condition.buyer collects £100 01517224512

MISC

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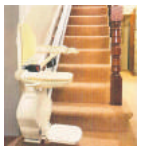

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SPORTS EQUIPMENT

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- *Round includes:* Church St, Derby St West, Church Fields, Aughton St, The Stiles
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- *Round includes:* Long Ln (part), Beaumont Cres, Carmel Cl, Sandfield Pk, Moss Bank, Moss Bank Ct, Aughton Park Dr
- *Round includes:* Delph Park Ave, Delph Common Rd, Crescent Gr, School Cl

PARBOLD

- *Round includes:* Brandreth Delph, Brandreth Pk, Lancaster Ln, Croasdale Dr, Miry Ln, Park Cl, Stoney Ln, The Delph

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for Saturday Night duty or alternate Saturday Night duty

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01704 538568

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

FAIRHURST DOROTHY

The family of the above wish to express their sincere thanks to all relatives, friends and neighbours for the kindness, sympathy and understanding shown to them during their recent bereavement. Also for their contribution with cards, letters of condolence and donations to Clatterbridge Cancer Charity which has so far raised over £1,100.
Our thanks to: The staff at Rufford pharmacy for their amazing efficiency and dedication. Doctors and nursing staff at Clatterbridge Cancer Hospital. Doctors and palliative team from Queenscourt Hospice. The Queenscourt at Home support team. Marie Curie Home Support staff. Macmillan Nurses at Southport Hospital. Matron and staff at The Beaufort Nursing Home. Special thanks to the District Nursing staff based at Tarleton. A huge thank you to all the staff at Care Concern NW. Manager and staff at Whiteledge Day Centre for the care of Michelle. To Miss Danielle Larsen for her unstinting support for all the family members. Thanks to Mr Peter Goulding for the manner in which he conducted the Celebration Service, to the staff at West Lancashire Crematorium and to Lorraine Stanger and the staff of Cookson Tyrer, Burscough for the funeral arrangements.

COMPTON TERRY ALLAN

Carol and family would like to express sincere thanks to all relatives and friends for all the support given, caring letters and cards of condolence and generous donations received for R.N.L.I. and St Nicholas' Parish Church. Thanks to Rev Alan Brooks for his wonderful support and gracious leading of a lovely service and the final committal at the Crematorium.
Finally thank you to Derek Crawford and everyone at Howard's Funeral Directors for the personal attention and dignified funeral arrangements.

CATTERALL SIMON JOHN

The family of Simon John Catterall would like to thank all who attended the funeral. Thanks to Carol Edwards for a fitting service. Also thanks to Hunters Funeral Directors for their caring and dignified arrangements. Any further donations for the Diabetic Society may be made via Hunters 128B Burscough Street, Ormskirk.
Tel 01695 572997

Announcements

BIRTHDAY MEMORIAMS

HARVEY MAUREEN

18th June

We miss and think about you every day.
Love heartbroken daughter Mandy, Tony, Chris, Sarah, Dave, Mia and Libby
xxx

LEE RON

15th June

On your 80th Birthday

Thinking of you today.
For a very special someone with that lovely smile.
Loved and missed by Mary, Sons, Grandchildren and all the family.
Love you all the world sweetheart
XXXXXXXXXXXX

JOHN ALEXANDER BALL

14th June 1935

If tears could wash away our pain, we would not feel such hurt again.

The heartbreak felt since you've been gone, we wouldn't wish on anyone.

But today is your 81st birthday, so we'll have to be brave, and accept God's taken what first he gave.

Your loving Wife Pauline, Daughter, Sons, In-laws, Grandchildren and Great Grandchildren.

xxxx

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DEATHS

O'NEILL TONY

June 2nd 2016
Aged 83 years

Devoted Husband of the late Dorothy, much loved Dad to Graham, David, Jill and Liz. He will be greatly missed by all his family and friends. Service at Southport Crematorium on Thursday 23rd June at 1:20pm.
All enquiries to Howard's Funeral Directors, 19a Banastre Road, Southport, PR8 5AW. Telephone: 01704 500086.

WARREN EDNA

3rd June 2016
Aged 90 Years

Peacefully passed away with her family by her side. Devoted Wife of the late Joe, much loved Mum of John and Janice, loving Mother in law of Brenda and Cliff, cherished Grandmother and Great Grandmother to all of her Grandchildren. Service at Southport Crematorium on Friday 17th June at 10:00am. Family flowers only please but if desired donations are being gratefully received for Dementia UK. Donations and enquiries to Howard's Funeral Directors, 19a Banastre Road, Southport, PR8 5AW. Telephone: 01704 500086.

BARLOW HAROLD

5th June 2016
Aged 75 years
Passed away peacefully at Stocks Hall Nursing Home Burscough

Much loved Husband, Father, Grandfather and Brother. Funeral service to take place on Friday 17th June 2016 at St Johns Church, Burscough at 11.15am followed by committal at West Lancashire Crematorium at 12:15pm.
Family flowers only.
Donations if so desired to Northwest Air Ambulance Charity.
All enquiries to Hunters Funeral Directors, 128b Burscough Street, Ormskirk, Lancashire, L39 2EY Tel: 01695 572997

DEATHS

UNWIN KENNETH

8th June 2016
Aged 84 Years
Passed away peacefully at Southport Hospital with his family around him

Loving Husband to Elizabeth. Much loved Father to David, Graham and Daughter-in-law Louise.
Funeral Service to take place at Christ Church, Aughton on Tuesday 21st June 2016 at 1pm. Followed by Cremation at West Lancashire Crematorium at 1.45pm for family and close friends. Family flowers only. Donations if so desired to the Liverpool Heart and Chest Hospital Charity.
All enquiries to Hunters Funeral Directors 128B Burscough Street, Ormskirk, L39 2EY Tel: 01695 572997

McCONVILLE IVY

8th June 2016
Peacefully in Hospital aged 86 years

Loving Wife of the late John, devoted Mum of Yvonne, Lynn and Alan, dear Mother-in-law of Tony, Keith and Glenda, caring Sister of Barbara, cherished Nan and Great Nan of all her Grandchildren. Will be sadly missed by all her family and friends. Funeral service will take place at St. Pauls Church on Thursday 16th June at 9.45am followed by Interment at Liverpool Road Cemetery. Family flowers only please by request donations if desired for Alzheimer's Society.
All enquiries to Margaret Whitelam Skelmersdale Funeral Service 29/31 Sandy Lane Tel: 01695 559868

IN MEMORIAM

HOWARD BRENDA (FUN-NYFACE)

WEDDING ANNIVERSARY
21st JUNE 2016

Thinking of you on what would have been our 36th Wedding Anniversary & missing you more than ever,still love you & always will.
James

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IN MEMORIAM

FITZPATRICK MARIE
17th June 2013
Wonderful Memories of my Dear Friend Marie
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Sadly Missed
Ev & Family
X

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IN MEMORIAM

MUNRO SARAH (SAL)
19th June 2007
Always on our minds,
Forever in our hearts,
Love and miss you so much.
Loving Husband Tony, Children Gerard, John, Diane and Matt, Grandchildren Grace, Caleb and Ethan
xxxx

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THE LANCASHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL
(PUBLIC FOOTPATH NO'S 3 & 4 LYDIATE & 21, 30 (PART), 31 & 32 AUGHTON, WEST LANCASHIRE BOROUGH)
(TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF THROUGH TRAFFIC) ORDER 2016
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Lancashire County Council have made an Order under Section 14(1) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, as amended, the effect of which is to prohibit temporarily any traffic from proceeding over those lengths of Public Footpath No's 3 & 4 Lydiate and 21, 30 (part), 31 & 32 Aughton, Borough of West Lancashire, indicated below:-
Public Footpath No. 3 Lydiate, West Lancashire commencing from Point A (GR SD 3763 0661) at its junction with Green's Lane, Lydiate, West Lancashire and running in a generally easterly direction for a distance of approximately 126 metres to Point B (GR SD 3776 0659) then turning in a north easterly direction and running for a distance of approximately 232 metres to Point C (GR SD 3788 0676) and its junction with FP33 Aughton, West Lancashire.
Public Footpath No. 4 Lydiate, West Lancashire commencing from Point D (GR SD 3733 0595) at its junction with Green's Lane, West Lancashire and running in a generally north easterly direction for a distance of approximately 664 metres to Point E (GR SD 3378 0625) and its junction with FP32 Aughton, West Lancashire.
Public Footpath No. 32 Aughton, West Lancashire commencing from Point E (GR SD 3378 0625) and running in a generally northerly direction for a distance of approximately 370 meters to Point B (GR SD 3776 0659) and its junction with FP3 Lydiate, West Lancashire.
Part of Public Footpath No. 30 Aughton, West Lancashire commencing from its junction with FP8 Aughton at Point F (GR SD 3810 0626) and running in a generally southerly direction for a distance of approximately 993 metres to Point G (GR SD 3821 0543) and its junction with Back Lane, Aughton, West Lancashire.
Public Footpath No. 21 Aughton, West Lancashire commencing from Point H (GR SD 3822 0544) and running in a generally south easterly direction for a distance of approximately 656 metres to Point I (GR SD 3873 0519) and its junction with the A59 (Northway), Aughton, West Lancashire.
Public Footpath No. 31 Aughton, West Lancashire commencing from Point H (GR SD 3822 0544) and running in a generally northerly direction for a distance of approximately 809 metres to Point J (GR SD 3848 0618) and its junction with FP28 & 29 Aughton, West Lancashire.
The closure is necessary due to works proposed to be and being executed on or near the routes, said works being the laying of a new pipeline.
Access for pedestrians to any premises situated on or adjacent to the footpaths, or to any other premises accessible for pedestrians from, and only from, the footpaths, will be maintained at all times.
Nothing in the order shall apply to emergency service vehicles.
The Order will be operative from the 16th June, 2016, for a period of 6 months or until the works are completed within this period.
IAN YOUNG, Director of Governance, Finance & Public Services, Christ Church Precinct, County Hall, PRESTON PR1 8XJ

NOT PART OF THE STATUTORY NOTICE
The plan on site shows the routes to be closed as A-B-C, D-E, E-B, F-G, H-I & H-J. Lancashire County Council is informed that alternative routes are provided using D-A-K & I-L-J-M.
Please contact the Rights of Way Team on 01772 533722 if necessary.

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LANCASHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL
(HOLMESWOOD ROAD, HOLMESWOOD, WEST LANCASHIRE BOROUGH)
(TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF THROUGH TRAFFIC) ORDER 2016
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Lancashire County Council have made an Order under Section 14(1) (a) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, as amended, the effect of which will be to temporarily prohibit traffic on the roads set out in this notice.
1. No person shall cause any motor vehicle to proceed over that length of Holmeswood Road, Holmeswood from its junction with A565 Roundabout Southport New Road to A59 Liverpool.
2. The prohibition will be operative daily between 0700 hours and 1700 hours from Monday 4th July 2016 until Friday 29th July or until completion of the works within this period.
3. An alternative route for vehicular traffic affected by the closure is via: A565 Southport New Road – A59 Liverpool Road and Vice Versa.
The temporary prohibition is necessary to allow utility works to be carried out.
Authority given for this Order to be made:
Michael White, Network Regulation Manager, Lancashire Highway Services, 0300 123 6701 [Ref: HRiT/3123/WH]

Lancashire County Council
www.lancashire.gov.uk

LANCASHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL
(A5209 CROW ORCHARD ROAD, WRIGHTINGTON, WEST LANCASHIRE BOROUGH)
(TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF THROUGH TRAFFIC) ORDER 2016
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Lancashire County Council have made an Order under Section 14(1) (a) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, as amended, the effect of which will be to temporarily prohibit traffic on the roads set out in this notice.
1. No person shall cause any motor vehicle or cycle to proceed over that length of A5209 Crow Orchard Road, Wrightington from its junction with the Roundabout Jct27 of the M6.
2. The prohibition will be operative daily between 2100 hours and 0500 hours from Sunday 03rd July 2016 until Wednesday 06th July 2016 or until completion of the works within this period.
3. An alternative route for vehicular traffic affected by the closure is via: A5209 Crow Orchard Road – B5250 Mossy Lea Road – Boundary Lane – Pepper Lane – Old Pepper Lane – Almond Brook Road – B5206 Shevington Lane – A5209 Crow Orchard Road and Vice Versa.
The temporary prohibition is necessary to allow carriageway resurfacing works to be carried out.
Authority given for this Order to be made:
Michael White, Network Regulation Manager, Lancashire Highway Services, 0300 123 6701 [Ref: HRiT/3003/WH]

Lancashire County Council
www.lancashire.gov.uk

West Lancashire Borough Council
Planning (Listed Buildings & Conservation Areas) Act 1990 Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (England) Order 2015 - Article 15

APPLICATION(S) FOR PLANNING PERMISSION
Application No: 2016/0531/FUL Division of existing dwelling and curtilage to form two dwellings. (Brook Farm House and Brook Farm Cottage). Erection of first floor extension to Brook Farm Cottage. Erection of 1.0M high close boarded fence to boundary of Brook Farm Cottage and provision of new access gates. Provision of 1.8M high boundary wall between Brook Farm House and Brook Farm Cottage at Brook Farm House, Mercers Lane, Bickerstaffe, Ormskirk.
This does not (or may not) accord with the development plan.
Application No: 2016/0589/FUL Two storey detached replacement dwelling with integral garage and associated external works at Windrush, Whiteleys Lane, Lathom.
This does not (or may not) accord with the development plan.
Application No: 2016/0609/FUL Variation of Condition 2 imposed on planning permission 2015/1047/FUL to include the erection of a wall and railings to a part of the St Helens Road frontage of the application site and to add reference to the following drawing to the list of approved plans which the Phase II development and external works must be built in accordance with: MLD/15/109/01 Rev D 'Phase 11 Residences - Boundary Improvements' at Edge Hill University, St Helens Road, Ormskirk.

APPLICATION(S) AFFECTING A CONSERVATION AREA / LISTED BUILDING
Application No: 2016/0338/FUL Conversion and alterations to existing property forming two apartments with new entrance porch and off road parking at The Vicarage, Park Road, Ormskirk.
Application No: 2016/0510/FUL Detached garage to replace existing store and formation of boundary wall to property curtilage at The Shippon, Brook Lane, Ormskirk.
Application No: 2016/0593/FUL Conversion of restaurant on the ground floor into student accommodation following demolition of the existing kitchen extension to create amenity area and a small extension to the retained rear elevation at Deli Sabrosa, 13 Railway Road, Ormskirk.
Application No: 2016/0619/LBC Listed Building Consent - The introduction of a new escape stair to provide an alternative means of escape and minor alterations to previously approved accommodation to form one larger (first floor) and two smaller (ground floor) seminar rooms and a store room at Scarisbrick Hall School, Southport Road, Scarisbrick..
The applications are available for viewing on the Council's website www.westlancs.gov.uk/planning. Alternatively, the application can be viewed during normal office hours at 52 Derby Street, Ormskirk and at 1st Floor, The Concourse, Skelmersdale. If you wish to comment on the proposal you can do so via the Council's web site, by e.mail to plan.apps@westlancs.gov.uk or in writing to Development and Regeneration Services, 52 Derby Street, Ormskirk, but these must be received within 21 days of the date of this notice quoting the application no. Any comments made will be available for public inspection.
Applications for Minor Commercial and Householder Development
In the event that an appeal is made against a decision of the Council to refuse to grant planning permission for the proposed development, and that appeal then proceeds by way of the expedited procedure under the written representations procedure, any representations made to the Council about an application will be passed to the Secretary of State and there will be no opportunity to make further representations.
John R Harrison DipEnvP., MRTPI Director of Development and Regeneration
Dated: 15th June 2016
PDNOT902

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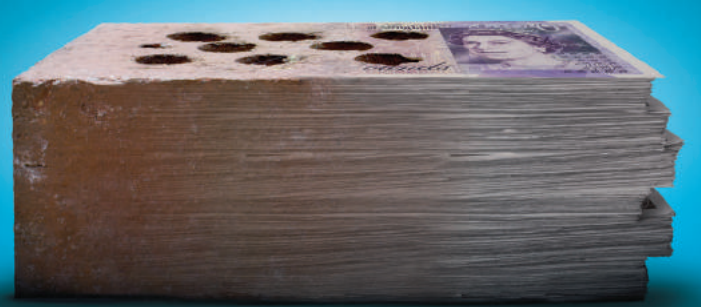
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PUBLIC NOTICES

LANCASHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL
(LAFFORD LANE, UPHOLLAND, WEST LANCASHIRE BOROUGH) (TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF THROUGH TRAFFIC) ORDER 2016
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Lancashire County Council intend to make an Order under Section 14(1) (a) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, as amended, the effect of which will be to temporarily prohibit traffic on the roads set out in this notice.
1. No person shall cause any motor vehicle, to proceed over that length of Lafford lane, Upholland from 20 meters southbound outside of Rothwell House.
2. The prohibition will be operative from 0800 hours on Monday 27th June 2016 until 18:00 on Wednesday 29th June 2016 or until completion of the works within this period.
3. An alternative route for vehicular traffic affected by the closure is via: A577 Grove Road - College Road – Stoney Brow - School Lane – Lafford Lane and vice versa.
The temporary prohibition is necessary to allow utilities works to be carried out.
Authority given for this Order to be made:
Michael White, Network Regulation Manager, Lancashire Highway Services, 0300 123 6701 [Ref: HRiT/3263/WH]

www.lancashire.gov.uk Lancashire County Council

LANCASHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL
(MORRIS LANE, HALSALL, WEST LANCASHIRE BOROUGH) (TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF THROUGH TRAFFIC) ORDER 2016
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Lancashire County Council have made an Order under Section 14(1) (a) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, as amended, the effect of which will be to temporarily prohibit traffic on the roads set out in this notice.
1. No person shall cause any motor vehicle, to proceed over that length of Morris lane, Halsall from its junction with the A5147 Halsall Road to its junction with Small Lane North.
2. The prohibition will be operative daily between 0930 hours and 1530 hours from Monday 27th June 2016 until Wednesday 29th June 2016 or until completion of the works within this period.
3. An alternative route for vehicular traffic affected by the closure is via: Small Lane North – North Moor Lane – A5147 Halsall Road and vice versa.
The temporary prohibition is necessary to allow Utility works to be carried out.
Authority given for this Order to be made: Michael White, Network Regulation Manager, Lancashire Highway Services, 0300 123 6701
[Ref: HRiT/2490/WH]

www.lancashire.gov.uk Lancashire County Council

LANCASHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL
(WYKE COP ROAD, SCARISBRICK, WEST LANCASHIRE BOROUGH) (TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF THROUGH TRAFFIC) ORDER 2016
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Lancashire County Council intend have made an Order under Section 14(1) (a) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, as amended, the effect of which will be to temporarily prohibit traffic on the roads set out in this notice.
1. No person shall cause any motor vehicle, Cycle or Pedestrian to proceed over that length of Wyke Cop Road, Scarisbrick from 20 metres either side of the level crossing.
2. The prohibition will be operative daily between 2300 hours and 0800 hours from Saturday 25th June 2016 until Sunday 26th June 2016 or until completion of the works within this period.
3. An alternative route for vehicular traffic affected by the closure is via: Wyke Cop Road – Pool Hey Lane – A570 Southport Road – Snape Green – Wyke Cop Road and Vice Versa.
The temporary prohibition is necessary to allow Level Crossing works to be carried out.
Authority given for this Order to be made:
Michael White, Network Regulation Manager, Lancashire Highway Services, 0300 123 6701 [Ref: HRiT/2689/WH]

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£149 DEPOSIT | **£149 PER MONTH** | **£1700 FINANCE DEPOSIT ALLOWANCE PAID BY VAUXHALL**

Cash Price £12,426.69	Amount Financed £10,577.69	Interest £1,214.37	Total Amount payable £13,641.06
Deposit £148	47 Monthly Payments £148.98	Optional Final Payment (GFV) £4,743	Annual Mileage 5000
Finance Deposit Allowance £1,700	1 X Payment £4,743		APR 4.0%

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Cash Price £12,770.60	Amount Financed £11,270.60	Interest £1,293.46	Total Amount payable £14,362.06
Deposit £NIL	45 Monthly Payments £159.98	Optional Final Payment (GFV) £5,045	Annual Mileage 5000
Finance Deposit Allowance £1,500	1 X Payment £5,045		APR 4.9%

Brand New Vauxhall Astra 1.0T 12V ecoFLEX SRi

£209 DEPOSIT | **£209 PER MONTH** | **£650 FINANCE DEPOSIT ALLOWANCE PAID BY VAUXHALL**

Cash Price £16,192.47	Amount Financed £15,333.47	Interest £1,789.59	Total Amount payable £17,982.06
Deposit £209	47 Monthly Payments £209.98	Optional Final Payment (GFV) £7,254	Annual Mileage 5000
Finance Deposit Allowance £650	1 X Payment £7,254		APR 4.0%

Brand New Vauxhall Mokka 1.6i Exclusiv 5dr

NO DEPOSIT | **£199 PER MONTH** | **£3000 FINANCE DEPOSIT ALLOWANCE PAID BY VAUXHALL**

Cash Price £16,578.84	Amount Financed £13,578.84	Interest £1,530.22	Total Amount payable £18,109.06
Deposit £NIL	47 Monthly Payments £199.98	Optional Final Payment (GFV) £5,710	Annual Mileage 5000
Finance Deposit Allowance £3,000	1 X Payment £5,710		APR 4.0%

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David was more than happy to play 007 with his MG in Glen Coe

The drive to the Scottish Highlands 007 style really has the 'licence to thrill'

DAVID SIMISTER

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***SKYFALL* is a superb film. It regularly trades places with *The Living Daylights* at the top of my own ranking of James Bond's best cinematic outings – yet there's one scene in particular that clearly indulges in a bit of artistic licence.**

There was a small cheer in the cinema when Daniel Craig pushed open the garage doors to reveal that gleaming DB5 but barely two minutes later he's in the Scottish Highlands, looking contemplatively at a misty moor. There is absolutely no mention of the bit in between, largely because it would've killed the mood stone dead.

There are no shots of M waiting outside the mobile phone spares shop at Lancaster Services while 007 wanders off for a cheeky leak. Not once do we see the DB5 trundling at exactly 49.9mph through an average speed section of motorway just outside Glasgow. Most importantly we don't see a single MI6 employee looking a bit depressed as they pass a road sign, working out that despite having been on the road forever their destination is still five hours away.

Yet I know all of this because I've been to the very same stretch of misty moor *Skyfall* used to such devastating effect in my own noisy old car – my 1972 MGB GT, no less. Even when you're driving from Southport rather than 007's pad in Kensington it becomes painfully apparent that the Highlands are a very, very long way away from anything. Even Glaswegians – who cheat by already being in Scotland – have to take two hours out of their day to get there.

Yet I'd go again tomorrow if I could. It is such a mesmerising bit of motoring that I'd happily put up with any amount of midges, inclement weather and traffic jams caused by dawdling Belgian motorhomes to sample it again.

Don't do it half-heartedly by flying up to Inverness or Aberdeen and renting a car; I've done it and can vouch that a reasonably priced Kia just isn't right somehow. Take whatever set of wheels you cherish and put up with the painfully long journey, because when you get there the place is magnificent.

It's like someone's used a pantograph to make the best bits of the Lake District three times bigger, and once you peel off the A82 there's mile after mile of beautiful (and largely deserted) countryside. Even when my mates and I reached the exact spot from *Skyfall* – which helpfully has a signpost emblazoned with the '007' logo to pinpoint it for the Bond geeks like me – we had the place pretty much to ourselves for the best part of 40 minutes.

It's not the first time I've been to the Highlands, but having been there in my own car I can say it's definitely one of those drives you have to do at least once.

This drive truly is licensed to thrill.

David is features editor of Classic Car Weekly

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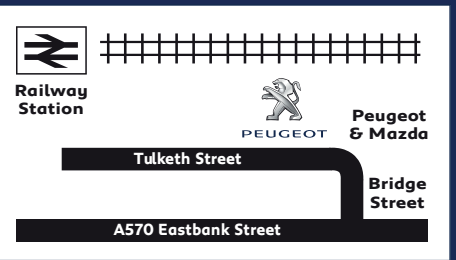

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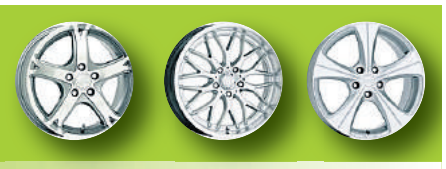
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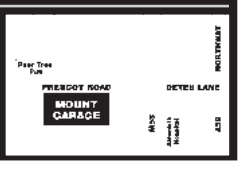

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Lawson: 'We'll have a good side together by next season'

Report by **Neil Leatherbarrow**

"I am really looking forward to next season I think we will have a good side together by the time it starts."

Not the words of your reporter but the words of Skelmersdale United manager Tommy Lawson speaking this week about the prospects for next season at Stormy Corner.

Lawson took his time to reel off a list of names that are in discussion to sign for Skelmersdale United during the next few weeks.

As usual we have had to keep them under wraps until Lawson gives us clearance to make them public, but they really are impressive, with a defender and a forward who are sure to thrill regular Skem supporters.

Not many have left Skelmersdale either, with Lawson adding: "We haven't actually released anyone.

"They all will be made welcome when we return to training on Friday, July 1.

"Skelmersdale have their first pre-season game against Accrington is set for mid-July so they will be worked hard before they start."

A point for Skelmersdale supporters to note is that the Evo-Stik League won't be announcing their fixtures until July, even if the Premier League will have announced their fixtures today.

Ormskirk lose ground on leaders after rain-hit draw with New Brighton

Northern pull clear at top after spinners Snaylam and Sephton claim nine wickets against Lytham

ORMSKIRK lost ground on Liverpool Competition Premier league leaders Northern when their home match against New Brighton was cut short by the weather on Saturday with the hosts hanging on for a draw, *writes Glenn Wallworth.*

The visitors batted first and were struggling on 73-5 until a middle order fightback saw them recover to 241-9 declared off 51 overs, thanks in the main to Upal Fernando (70), Louis Botes (69) and Andrew Clarke (40).

In reply, Ormskirk also found it tough early on as they slipped to 43-5, before rain interruptions meant they ended way short of their target on 123-7, with Tom Hartley unbeaten on 29.

Northern took advantage of other clubs misfortune with the weather as they increased their lead at the top of the table to seven points with a 43 run home win over Lytham.

After being asked to bat first, the hosts duly racked up 220-5 dec in 55 overs, thanks in no small part to a fine unbeaten 93 from Davy Smith, 40 from Liam Grey and 34 from Jack Boardman, whilst Lancashire's Toby Lester took 3-40.

In reply, visiting skipper Dom O'Brien top scored with 52, Luke Williams hit 43 and Matt Taaffe 38 as Lytham were dismissed for 177, thanks to the spin of Scott Snaylam 4-54 and Tom Sephton 3-78.

Formby climbed up to fifth place in the table with a 44 run win at Colwyn Bay.

The visitors were dismissed for 142, with Dane Williams (49) and James Seward (46*) the only batsmen to offer much resistance to Shrikant Mundhe who took a remarkable haul of 8-69.

In reply, only Adam Campion (42) offered much with the bat for the hosts as they were dismissed for 98, thanks in the main to a fine spell of bowling from Ben Aitchison 4-18 and former first class spinner Gary Keedy 3-17.

This weekend's local LDCC Premier League fixtures: Leigh v Northern, Ormskirk v Bootle.

Maghull stay at foot of table after battling draw against Wigan

Skelmersdale extend lead at top of Second Division after thrilling on wicket victory over Old Xavarians

Maghull remain at the foot of the Liverpool Competition First Division table after a creditable home draw against Wigan.

Former New Zealand test batsman Aaron Redmond hit a century (103 inc 9x4 & 2x6) and John Richardson (59) as the visitors were bowled out for 238, with Jack Wrigglesworth returning figures of 7-96.

In reply, Maghull recovered from 67-5 to reach 189-8 at the close, thanks in the main to three fighting knocks from Mohammad Nawaz (44*), Liam Johnson (41) and Wrigglesworth (35), with Ryan Parry 4-42 and George Burrows 3-59 the pick of the bowlers.

Southport & Birkdale stopped their recent run of poor form with a five wicket home win over Northop Hall.

The visitors were asked to bat and duly dismissed for 110, thanks to a fine all round bowling performance led by skipper Chris Firth who took 3-5 and Jack Baybutt with 3-20. In reply, 26 from Guy Edwards and an unbeaten 36 from Adam Phillips helped take S&B to victory on 114-5, with James Hurlin taking 4-38.

The First Division matches between Burscough and Ainsdale and Highfield and Fleetwood Hesketh were abandoned without a ball being bowled, as were the Second Division matches between Spring View and Hightown St Mary's and Sutton and Southport Trinity.

Skelmersdale have extended their lead at the top of Division Two after a nail-biting one wicket win at Old Xaverians.

Daniel Edwards claimed six wickets for 33 as Old Xavarians were dismissed for 131 in the 41st over.

Skelmersdale were the struggling in reply on 23-5 before Ryan Maloney scored 56 and the late order rallied

This weekend's local LDCC fixtures First and Second Division: Ainsdale v Orrell Red Triangle, Fleetwood Hesketh v Prestatyn, Maghull v Newton le Willows, Northop Hall v Burscough, Wigan v Southport & Birkdale, Hightown St Mary's v Wavertree and Southport Trinity v Liverpool.

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Champion

15 June 2016 Vol 23 • Issue 24 www.champnews.com

This week's Champion is inside ...

The daddy of great deals.

Well, we wouldn't let you forget would we?

Ormskirk, The Hattersley Centre, L39 2XF.

Netto
Scandinavian for value

Ideal gifts for Father's Day.
19th June

£4.50 per pack

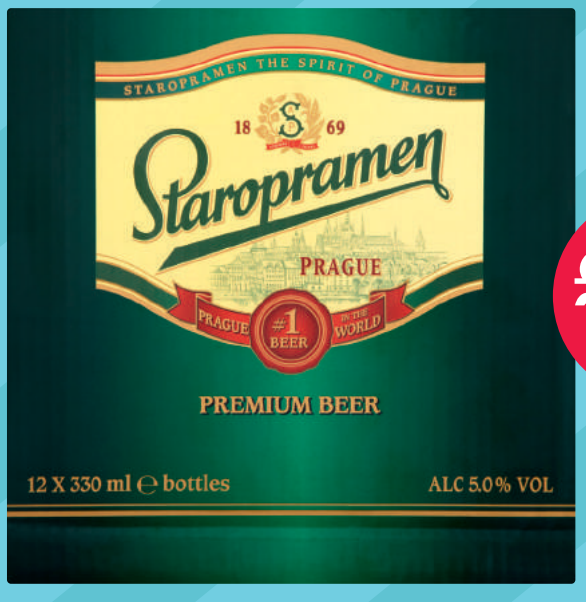
Leffe Blonde
4 x 330ml
£3.41 per kg | **SPOT**

£1 per pack

Nestlé Walnut Whip
3 pack
98g | £1.02 per 100g | **SPOT**

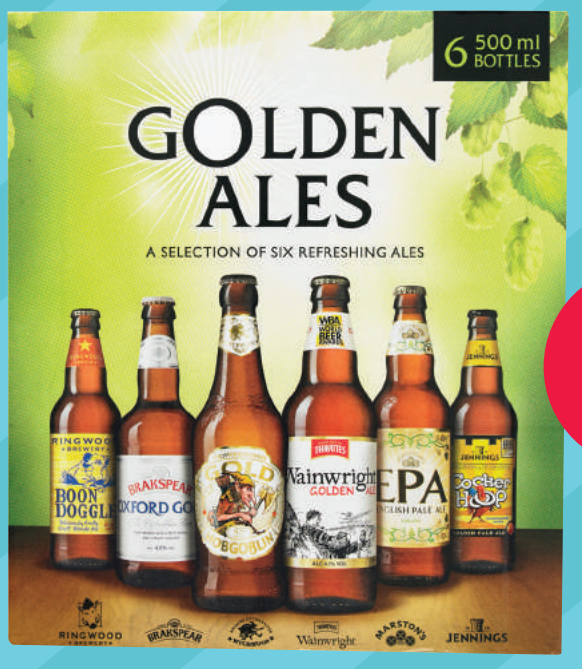
£8.50 each

Nivea Men Shave Gift Set
Shaving Gel 200ml & Post Shave Balm 100ml
SPOT



£10 per pack

Staropramen
12 x 330ml
£2.53 per litre | **SPOT**



£7 per pack

Golden Ales Mixed Pack
6 x 500ml
£2.33 per litre | **SPOT**

The daddy of great meals.

SUMMER IS HERE

Jeeves

70cl

£3.99 per bottle

Premieur Pork Sausages

Caramelised Onion or Chorizo

400g | £4.38 per kg

£1.75 per pack

Sweet Chilli Chicken Thighs

700g | £3.57 per kg

£2.50 per pack

Pop Chorizo, Halloumi & Vegetables on Skewers.

Serving suggestion.

Offers from Thursday 16th June until Wednesday 22nd June, while stocks last.

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The daddy of fresh greens.

Offers from Thursday 16th June until Wednesday 22nd June, while stocks last.

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What ya got cooking?

Baking and Roasting Tins
With non-stick coating, and a lid to use for storage.

£5 each

SPOT

Slate Serving Plates
Either with or without handle.
D. 25cm, 25 x 25cm or 30 x 20cm.

SPOT

£2 each

£9 each

Chopping Boards
Made from Acacia wood, choose from either:
Chopping Board L: 40 x W: 30 x D. 3.5cm with juice groove
or
2 Pack Serving Board
L: 38 x W: 14.5 x H: 1.5cm and L: 54 x W: 20 x H: 2.5cm

SPOT

Find us here:

The Hattersley Centre,
L39 2XF.

Opening Times:
Mon to Sat 8am – 9pm
Sun 10am – 4pm
(Exceptions may apply on Bank Holidays)

Andre Ranfort
Store Manager

Andre and the team look forward to seeing you!

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